

1938  
COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

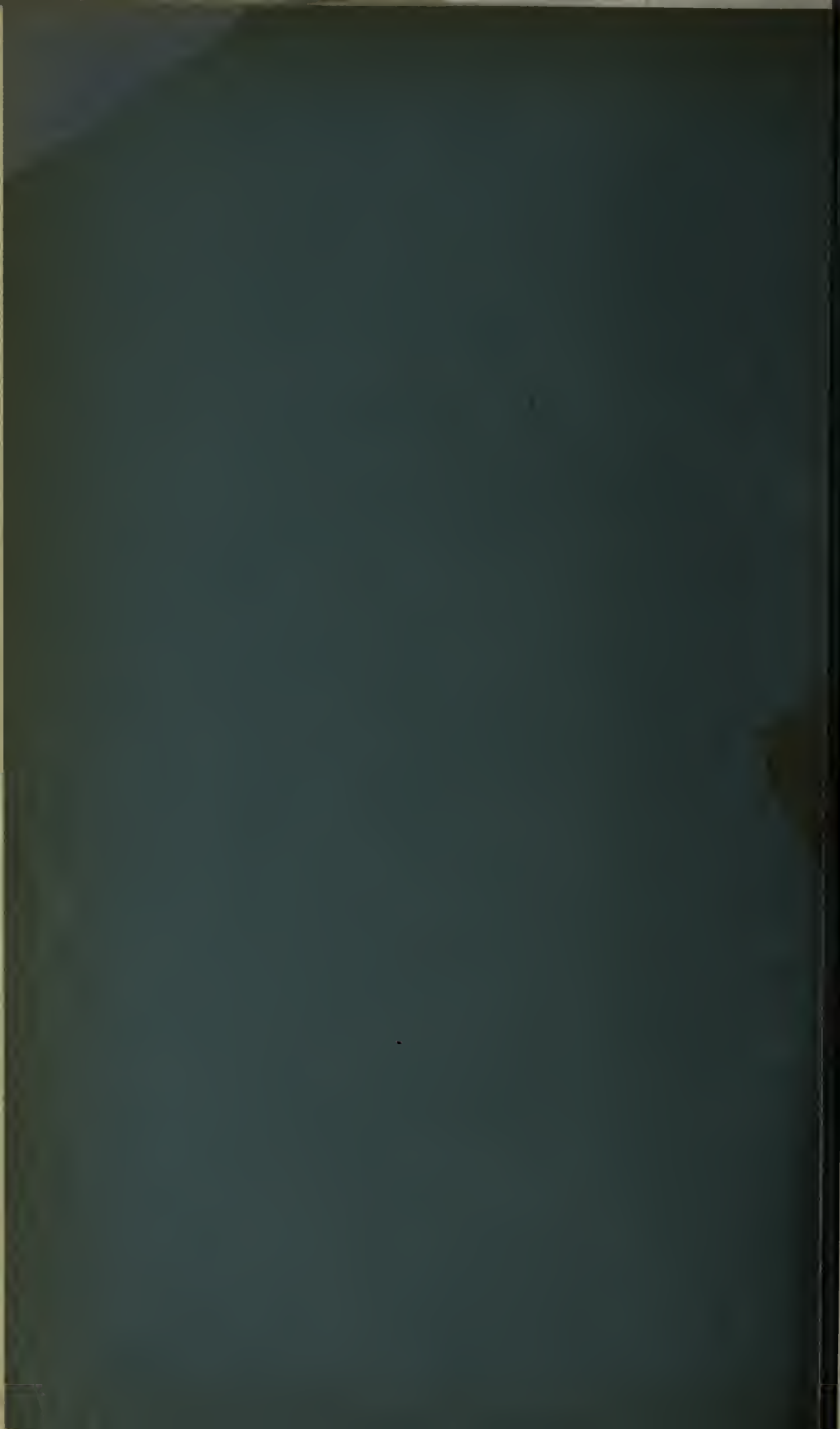
1938

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JOHN INNES, M.D., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.

ROCHDALE.

L. WILSON & SONS LTD., PRINTERS, ACKER STREET



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OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year ended 31st December, 1938

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JOHN INNES, M.D., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.

ROCHDALE:  
E. WRIGLEY & SONS LTD., PRINTERS, ACKER STREET

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# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, DECEMBER, 1938.

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer,  
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, Medical Superintendent of Corporation Hospitals :*  
**JOHN INNES, M.D., D.P.H.**

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health,  
Clinical Tuberculosis Officer,  
V.D. Medical Officer :*

**ALBERT H. HEYWORTH, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.**

*Assistant School Medical Officer :*  
**NORAH MILLS, M.D., CH.B.**

*Assistant Resident Medical Officers :*  
(Birch Hill Hospital)

**G. E. HESKETH, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.**  
**D. LONGBOTTOM, M.B., CH.B.**

*Lay Administrative Officer :*  
**FRED SCHOFIELD†**

*Meat and Dairy Inspector :*  
**S. HENNINGS.‡||**

*Removal and Disinfection Officers :*  
**J. J. DOWD, R. E. PICKLES.**

*Health Visitors (Tuberculosis) :*  
**Miss C. HOLT\*† and Mrs. M. L. GALLIMORE\*.**

*School Nurses :*  
**Misses M. INGHAM\*, M. STEPHENSON\*†¶, D.  
M. W. FRENCH\*†¶.**

*Dental Attendants :*  
**G. PETRIE, V. M. BROWN.**

*Hospital Matrons :* **Miss H. COPELAND\*†§ (Birch Hill).**  
**Miss G. M. WILKINSON\* (Marland).**  
**Miss E. BURGESS\* (Springfield).**

*Municipal Midwives :* **C. COUPE†, G. CUSHEN†, M.<sup>r</sup> C. GROANKE†, A. BUHROW†, M. WOOD†.**  
**M. BEARD†, H. CUNNINGHAM†, D. A. HOLDEN†.**

*Principal Medical Officer :*  
(Birch Hill Hospital)  
**HARRY CROSSLEY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.**

*Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity Schemes*  
**KENNETH A. EVANS, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,**  
**M.M.S.A., L.M. (ROTUNDA)**

*Assistant Medical Officer for Child Welfare,  
Ven. Dis. Medical Officer,  
Assistant School Medical Officer (Part Time) :*  
**GLADYS MONTGOMERY, M.B., CH.B., M.D.,**  
**D.P.**

*Dental Surgeons (Schools) :*  
**A. C. WALKER, L.D.S.**  
**H. P. GLESDALE L.D.S.**

*Chief Sanitary Inspector,  
Inspector Food and Drugs Acts :*  
**ALBERT E. DUNCAN.‡**

*District Sanitary Inspectors :*  
**A. TURNER‡||, A. SYMONS‡||.**

*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :*  
**G. DOBB‡||, J. GAWTHORPE‡.**

*Health Visitors and Infant Protection Visitors*  
**Misses L. LORD\*†, E. A. JOHNSON\*†**  
**E. GREENWOOD\*†¶, W. ROBERTS\*†**  
**and M. I. SMITH\*†¶.**

## PART TIME OFFICERS.

*Visiting Surgeon (Birch Hill Hospital) :*  
**J. C. JEFFERSON, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.**

*Obstetric Consultant :*  
**E. A. GERRARD, M.B., CH.B.,**  
**M.C.O.G.,**

*Pathologist :*  
**J. S. POOLEY, M.A., M.R.C.S.,**  
**L.R.C.P., D.P.H.**

*Dental Surgeon (Hospitals) :*  
**H. SENIOR ASHWORTH, L.D.S.**

*Public Analyst :*  
**S. E. MELLING, F.I.C.**

*Ophthalmic Surgeon :*  
**PHILIP A. HARRY, M.D., D.P.H.**

*Radiologist :*  
**ALAN RICHARDSON, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.**

*Consultant for Ear Nose & Throat Diseases (S  
Med. Service and Hospital Services) :*  
**W. R. CAMMOCK, F.R.C.S.**

*District Poor Law Medical Officers and Public  
Vaccinators :*  
**J. G. STANDING, M.B., C.M.**  
**A. LOMAS, M.B., CH.B.**  
**H. G. RAMSHOTTOM, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.**

*Vaccination Officers :*  
**H. CAMPBELL, W. M. LAW, H. BOOTH**  
**F. SCHOFIELD.**

§ Certificate of Society of Massage and Medical Gymnastics.

¶ New Health Visitor's Certificate (Royal Sanitary Institute).

\* Certificate of General Nursing.

‡ Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate, (Sanitary Inspector).

‡|| Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate, (Meat and Foods).

† C.M.B. Certificate of Midwifery.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of  
the County Borough of Rochdale.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Seventh Annual Report on the Health Conditions of the Borough, and the Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children for the year ending 31st December, 1938.

The Report has been prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health's Circular 1728, which states that the Report should contain as a minimum :—

- (a) Information with regard to the matters specified in the Appendix 1 to the Circular, set out as far as possible in the order there given, under the main heads :—

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area ;

General Provision of Health Services in the Area ;

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area ;

Housing ;

Inspection and Supervision of Food ;

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

- (b) A statement of any noteworthy conditions prejudicial to the health of the area which have not been adequately dealt with in Special Reports of the Medical Officer of Health.
- (c) A statement of any special action taken during the year in the area to arouse public interest in the prevention of ill health, or the importance of early treatment.
- (d) A summary of important Special Reports, if any, made during the year, including those which have been separately transmitted to the proper authorities.

The first portion of this Report is statistical in character. The birth-rate was slightly lower than the average for the past ten years, while the death-rate showed a definite decrease as compared with last year and the average of the previous five years.

The infantile mortality rate of 53 per 1,000 births for 1937 constituted a new low record for Rochdale. This figure was not equalled for 1938, but the rate for the year, at 63 per 1,000 births, is still an improvement on the previous records.

The number of deaths from maternal causes, namely 4, was a considerable decrease as compared with 7 in 1937. In one case there was complete absence of co-operation on the part of the patient.

The compulsorily notifiable infectious diseases showed an increase up to practically double the figures for 1937. The chief increases were shown by Diphtheria, with 234 cases compared with 56, and Scarlet Fever, with 170 cases as compared with 80 cases. In the non-notifiable group, Measles and German Measles were much more prevalent than in 1937.

Amongst the more important developments in the Public Health Service during the year may be noted :—

1. Extension of Maternal and Child Welfare Clinic services :—
  - (a) Additional clinics in both Ante-Natal and Child Welfare group ;
  - (b) Improved Clinic premises for Ante-Natal purposes.
2. Completion of arrangements for Ambulance service to Birch Hill Hospital to be undertaken by Health Committee.
3. Inauguration of Blood Transfusion Service for Birch Hill Hospital in conjunction with Rochdale Infirmary.
4. Revision of Hospital charges and of costing system as between Birch Hill Institution and Birch Hill Hospital.
5. Agreement in principle with the formation of a Joint Smoke Abatement Board for South-East Lancashire.
6. Meetings with neighbouring Authorities re Isolation Hospital Accommodation for this area.
7. Factory Act, 1937, came into operation in July.
8. The following orders and regulations were received :—
  - Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1938 ;
  - Milk and Dairies Amendment Order, 1938 ;
  - Tuberculosis Order, 1938 ;
  - Public Health (Aircraft) Regulations, 1938.

It is a matter of regret that, particularly in the latter part of the year, the work of the department was seriously interfered with by the requirements of the Air Raid Precautions Scheme for the Borough. At the time of writing it appears quite definite that this work will become, in greater or lesser degree, a permanent part of the Health Services of the town, and that adjustments will have to be made accordingly. Such adjustments can only be made either by a diversion of time and energy away from the Social Services, or by increased staff.



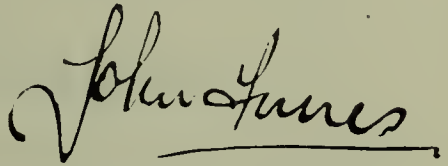
Throughout the year the Officials of this Department have enjoyed the confidence of the Health Committee, and have received much encouragement from the Committee. I wish to acknowledge that confidence and encouragement, and on the other hand, to thank my Staff in all its departments for the good work performed by them during the year.

Once again I am indebted to Mr. Schofield, Lay Administrative Officer, and to Mr. Duncan, Chief Sanitary Inspector, for their assistance in preparing this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Medical Officer of Health  
and School Medical Officer.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
June 20th, 1939.

# STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1938.

Area (in acres) ... ..	9,553
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid-year 1938	91,290
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) ... ..	25,487
Estimated sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..	£2,131
Rateable Value, ... ..	£563,621

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births.—Legitimate	1038 ...	520 ...	518
Illegitimate	58 ...	25 ...	33
	<u>1096</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>551</u>

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.0

Still-births 59—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 51.1

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths ... ..	1271 ...	609 ...	662

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 13.9

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes 4.

Puerperal Sepsis 1 }  
Other Puerperal Causes 3 } Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 3.5

## Death-rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 63  
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... .. 63  
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... .. 52

	No. of Deaths		Rate per 1,000 of population	
	1938	1937	1938	1937
Measles .. ..	3	—	0.03	—
Whooping Cough .. ..	—	3	—	0.03
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) .. ..	7	4	0.08	0.04
Other Principal Zymotic Diseases ..	5	4	0.05	0.04
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis) .. ..	144	164	1.58	1.78
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ..	44	50	0.48	0.54
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	14	0.05	0.15

### Poor Law Relief.

The following information as to the number of persons receiving Relief on December 31st, 1938, and the amount of cash payments during the year, compared with the corresponding figures for 1937, has been kindly supplied by the Public Assistance Officer :—

	During the year ended Dec. 31st,	
	1938	1937
No. of Persons in receipt of Institutional Relief	*399	391
Amount paid as Domiciliary Relief :—		
(a) Able-bodied Persons relieved on account of unemployment	£2,078	£6,342
(b) Poor Relief (aged and infirm, etc., persons)	£32,246	£27,094
No. of Persons in receipt of Domiciliary Relief (excluding vagrants)	*2,068	2,039

\* Statistics represent last week in December only.

### National Health Insurance.

The Clerk to the Insurance Committee has kindly supplied the following information as to the number of insured persons in the Borough and the cost of medicines supplied to the insured population :—

	Year ended Dec. 31st,	
	1938	1937
(1) Total number of Insured Persons in the borough on October 1st	52,534	50,385
(2) Number of Prescriptions made up for the Insured Population	231,306	245,245
(3) Annual Cost of Drugs, Medicines and Appliances for Insured Population	£8,645	£8,701

### Unemployment.

We are indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the following information as to unemployment in the Rochdale County Borough and the adjoining district of Wardle. Figures for Rochdale only are not available. The average number of persons on the Register during the year ended December 31st, 1938, is shown in the Table below, in comparison with the averages for the preceding three years :—

Year	Total	Men	Women	Juveniles
1935	6,660	4,674	1,772	214
1936	5,307	4,150	1,037	120
1937	3,985	3,168	737	80
1938	7,828	4,647	2,946	235

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Area and Population of the Borough.

The Census Returns of April, 1931, give the population as 90,278, as compared with the Registrar General's most recent estimate of 91,290 at mid-year 1938. Although there has been an extension of the Borough since the Census year by the inclusion of parts of the districts of Norden and Bamford with an estimated population of 4,000, there is evidence of a decline in the population of this Borough, due mainly to the continued low birth-rate and a high death-rate averaging 2 per 1,000 of the estimated population above the birth-rate, as indicated in Table I., Appendix.

The area of the Borough is now 9,553 acres.

### Live Births.

There were 1,096 live births (males 545, females 551) registered as belonging to this Borough, as compared with 1,093 in the year 1937, and an average of 1,175 during the ten years 1927-36.

**Illegitimate Births** numbered 58, or 5.3 per cent. of the total live births.

### Still Births.

These registered a total of 59, as against 55 the previous year and 42 in 1936.

**The Live Birth-rate** continued at a low even figure, and was equal to 12.0 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 11.9 the previous year and an average during the ten preceding years of 12.8 per 1,000. In the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London, the corresponding rate was 15.0 per 1,000, while the rate for the whole of England and Wales was 15.1 per 1,000 of the population.

### Deaths.

There were 1,271 deaths (609 males and 662 females) registered as belonging to this Borough, as compared with 1,415 the previous year and an average of 1,364 during the ten years 1927-36.

Comparative figures as to age periods of persons dying in 1938 and 1937 are given below :—

Year	Total deaths	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-65 yrs.	65 years and over
1937	1,415	58	21	13	32	600	691
1938	1,271	69	18	22	28	515	619

The death-rate from all causes was 13.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 15.4 during the preceding year and an average of 14.9 per 1,000 for the ten years 1927-36.

The chief causes of death are given in comparison with the previous year :—

						Year 1938		Year 1937
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	67
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	49	...	64
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	181	...	165
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	45	...	65
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	309	...	388
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	143	...	110
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	54	...	80
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	80	...	75
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	54	...	51
Congenital Debility, Malformation and Pre-mature Birth, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	42	...	35
TOTAL					...	974	...	1,100
Percentage of total deaths registered during the year								
...	...	...	...	...	...	76.6	...	77.7

Table II., Appendix, shows the age and sex distribution and causes of deaths in 1938, while Table I. gives comparative mortality rates and birth-rates during the past ten years.

### Infant Mortality.

In my last Report a year ago the number of infant deaths, numbering 58 during 1937, was reported as constituting the lowest record for Rochdale but, unfortunately, the past year has recorded an increase to 69 deaths, details of which are shown in Table III., Appendix.

This increase is mainly due to premature birth, which was certified as the cause of death in 25 cases, as against 14 in the previous year and an average of 22 during the five years 1932-1936. Deaths in the first four weeks of life continue to form a large proportion of the total infant deaths—48 or 69.6 per cent. during the year, as compared with 54 per cent. in 1937. As in previous years the diseases which are responsible for the major number of infant deaths under one year of age are diseases of the respiratory system and gastro enteritis.



### Comparative Mortality and Birth Rates.

	Death-rate All Causes per 1,000 of population	Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births
<b>ROCHDALE</b> ...	13.9	12.0	63
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns ...	11.7	15.0	57
148 Smaller Towns (Population 25,000 to 50,000) ...	11.0	15.4	51
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	11.6	15.1	53

These figures are corrected only for transfers and institutions and make no allowance for variations in the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas.

### Zymotic Diseases.

The principal zymotic or epidemic diseases (excluding influenza) caused 15 deaths (0.16 per 1,000 population), as compared with 11 deaths (0.10 per 1,000 of population), as shown below.

	Year 1938	Year 1937
Typhoid Fever ...	—	1
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1
Diphtheria ...	5	2
Measles ...	3	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	3
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	7	4
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>

### Respiratory Diseases.

This group of diseases showed a decrease from 164 in 1937 to 144 during the past year, due chiefly to the lower incidence of bronchitis.

Pneumonia was certified as the cause of 80 deaths, bronchitis 54 and other respiratory affections 10.

### Cancer.

The arrangement with the Christie Hospital and Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, for the admission and treatment of selected cases of cancer has been continued, and during the year six cases have been referred from Birch Hill Hospital to that Institution.

The number of deaths classified to this cause was 181, as compared with 165 in 1937 and 171 in 1936.

The deaths in 1938 are given in age groups below :—

Year	Total Deaths	under 15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-55 yrs.	55-65 yrs.	65-75 yrs.	75 yrs. and over
1938	181	1	1	9	25	56	66	23
1937	165	—	1	14	24	53	54	19

The average annual number of deaths due to this cause during the five years 1932-36 was 169.

The death-rate was 2.0 per 1,000 of population, and the previous year 1.8 per 1,000.

No special investigations have been undertaken during the year in connection with the incidence or causation of this disease.

## General Provision of Health Services

### Nursing in the Home.

The arrangement with the District Nursing Association for the home nursing of selected cases of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, measles and ophthalmia has been continued, and during the year much valuable public health work has been done by the staff of that Association as shown in the following summary kindly supplied by the Matron :—

	No. of Cases	No. of Visits
Pneumonia (excl. bronchial or with measles)	79	1,337
Tuberculosis ... ..	20	711
Complications of pregnancy ... ..	11	256
Abortions ... ..	7	187
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	25
Complications of childbirth ... ..	29	605
Influenza ... ..	7	80
Measles ... ..	7	72
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	6	340
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	9
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	6
Diphtheria ... ..	1	5
Other Diseases in Children under 5 years ...	121	1,378

The Health Committee pay the recognised visiting fee for cases referred by the Medical Officers of this Department.

### Midwives.

19 midwives gave notice of intention to practice within the Borough during 1938; 11 of these are engaged in private practice, while the remaining 8 are members of the public health staff acting as Municipal Midwives in domiciliary practice. The latter were appointed under the provisions of the Midwives' Act, 1936, and commenced duty on the 1st July, 1937, so that the past year ended December is the first complete year of service.

Each midwife has been allotted to a district in the Borough, with residence conveniently situated and with telephone provided. Their work is closely co-ordinated with the Child Welfare and Ante-Natal and Post-Natal services and with the Maternity Home at Birch Hill. Patients are allowed reasonable choice of midwife, but they are encouraged to select the midwife resident in the immediate district so as to avoid her travelling too far distant from her home. It is not possible to have the work evenly distributed over the eight midwives, but it is arranged that midwives in adjoining districts work together relieving each other whenever necessary.

During the eighteen months during which the Municipal Midwifery service has been in operation the progress of the scheme has been satisfactory.

The statistical summary below will convey some indication of the amount of work done by these midwives during the past year

Cases delivered	...	...	...	...	As Midwife	356	} ...	419
					As Nurse	63		
Visits during lying-in period	...	...	...	...	As Midwife	5804	} ...	6618
					As Nurse	814		
Ante-Natal (home) Visits	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2471
do.			number of patients concerned...	...	...	...	...	1240
Post-Natal Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Visits to Ante-Natal Clinic accompanied by patient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	322
Visits of enquiry re Claims for Medical-Midwifery Fees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	137

There were 544 domiciliary cases (including cases of abortion and miscarriage) during the year attended as follows:—

- 78 per cent. by Municipal Midwives;
- 18 per cent. by Private Midwives;
- 4 per cent. by Doctors.

The private midwives on the register as practicing on the 31st December, 1938, were eleven, and during the year these midwives attended only 98 cases.

In four cases a fee of ten shillings was paid to the private midwives as compensation in respect of maternity patients sent to the Birch Hill Maternity Home at the request of a medical practitioner or the Clinic Medical Officer.

### **Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.**

There has been no alteration in the scheme for dealing with medical out-relief during the year.

Three part-time Medical Officers are engaged in this service, each with a separate district, acting under the direction of the Public Assistance Committee.

### **Institutional Provision for Care of Mental Defectives.**

These cases are accommodated at the Birch Hill Poor Law Institution, Dearnley, and consist of epileptics, idiots, imbeciles, and the mentally infirm. Certified cases are transferred to appropriate institutions in other parts of the County. The present accommodation provides about 140 beds.

The Public Assistance Committee, have, however, arranged for alterations to the present buildings which will provide modern accommodation for this type of case. The work is now nearing completion.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

A motor ambulance is provided and housed at the Isolation Hospital for the removal of infectious cases.

For the removal of accident cases the Borough Police provide three motor ambulances. There are in addition two taxi ambulances and one motor ambulance owned privately by garage contractors. One of these contractors has entered into an agreement with the Corporation for the removal of non-infectious and sickness cases requiring admission to the Municipal General Hospital.

The total ambulance and taxi journeys removing patients to the Corporation Hospitals on behalf of the Public Health Department were :—Birch Hill Hospital 1,314, Marland Hospital 380, and Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital and Springfield Sanatorium 18.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

There are five Centres in connection with maternity and child welfare in various parts of the Borough provided and maintained by the Local Authority, with fourteen sessions each week—two additional sessions have been arranged



during the year to meet the increasing number attending ; also one Centre each in connection with (a) venereal diseases and tuberculosis, and (b) school medical inspection.

Hours of Clinic sessions and situation of Centres are shown, as also are particulars of Clinics provided by voluntary associations.

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
<b>I.—Maternity &amp; Child Welfare</b>					
(A) St. Luke's School, Deeplish .....	10—12 noon 2—4 p.m.	—	—	—	—
(B) St. Clement's School, Spotland Bridge ...	—	10—12 noon 2—4 p.m.	—	—	—
(C) Norden Liberal Club, Edenfield Road .....	—	—	—	—	2—4 p.m.
(D) Baillie St. Council School .....	—	—	2—4 p.m.	2—4 p.m.	10—12 a.m.
(E) Castleton Wesleyan School, Essex Street	—	—	—	—	2—4 p.m.
(F) <b>Ante Natal</b> (Baillie St. Council School) .....	10 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	5-30 to 7-0 p.m.	10 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	10 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	—
(G) <b>Post Natal</b> (Baillie St. Council School) ... ..	—	—	—	—	2-30—4 p.m.
<b>II.—Municipal Clinic</b> Baillie Street ...					
(A) <b>Tuberculosis Dispensary</b> Entrance : 24 Baillie St.	—	5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.	2—4 p.m.	—	9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.
(B) <b>Venereal Diseases Clinic—</b> Male .....	5-30 to 7-30 p.m.	3-0 p.m. to 5-0 p.m.	—	5—7 p.m.	—
Entrance : 20 Baillie Street					
Female .....	—	10-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m.	5-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.	—	—
Entrance : 2 Alfred Street					
<b>III.—Clinics Provided by the Education Committee—</b>					
(A) Inspection Clinics ...	9—12 noon	—	2—5 a.m.	—	9—12 noon
(B) Treatment Clinics ...	Daily 9—10	30 a.m.	—	—	—
(C) Eye Clinic .....	—	—	—	—	2—4 p.m.
<b>IV.—Orthopaedic Clinic</b> Smith Street .....	Exercise Clinics held daily throughout the week, 2—4 p.m.				
<b>V.—Clinics provided by the Rochdale Infirmary Board—</b>					
Orthopaedic Clinic ... ..	Monday to Friday.				
Artificial Light Clinic ... ..	Morning and Evening each day.				
Ophthalmic Clinic ... ..	Monday, 11 a.m.				
Medical Out-Patients' Clinic ... ..	Wednesday, 11 a.m.				
Ear, Throat and Nose Clinic ... ..	Friday Morning, 9-30 a.m.				
X-Ray ... ..	Each Morning at 9 o'clock.				
Massage ... ..	Tuesday & Friday, 9-30 a.m.				
Surgical Out-Patients ... ..	Daily.				

The work in connection with the Corporation Clinics is set out in detail in the respective sections in this report.

### Laboratory Facilities.

#### (a) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The agreement with Dr. Pooley at the Broadfield Laboratory for the bacteriological examinations necessary for clinical diagnosis in cases of suspected tuberculosis, diphtheria or typhoid fever, has been continued. Outfits for the collection of specimens may be obtained by medical practitioners on application



at the Public Health Offices or at the Laboratory ; a telephone or a written report on the examination is furnished without delay, in any case, within twenty-four hours.

This work continues to increase each year, mainly due to the demands of the hospital services. During the past year there were 6,440 examinations, as against 3,695 in 1937, and 2,813 in 1936. The past year's large increase was due chiefly to the prevalence of diphtheria throughout the town—4,239 diphtheria tests were made compared with 1,888 during the previous year.

Table XII., Appendix, shows details of the examinations during 1938.

In addition to this work, the following chemical analyses of water and the examination of milk for tuberculosis and bacterial count, etc., were also carried out at the Broadfield Laboratory.

Milk—for tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	181
for bacterial count and B.Coli	...	...	...	...	102
for meth. blue reductions test	...	...	...	...	99
Water	...	...	...	...	13

#### (b) PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Specimens collected from persons suspected to be suffering from venereal diseases are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester. 754 specimens were examined, as against 641 in 1937. In addition to this number 408 specimens were examined by the Medical Officer at the Treatment Centre.

Outfits for the collection of these specimens are also obtained from the Public Health Offices.

#### (c) MILK AND FOODSTUFFS.

The Borough Analyst (S. E. Melling, F.I.C.) appointed by this Authority, makes all chemical analyses and other examinations required under the Food and Drugs Acts. During the past year 307 samples were submitted. (See page 46 for full details.)

#### Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are three dwelling-houses registered as Maternity Homes and two Nursing Homes for medical and for surgical cases are also registered :—

59, Boundary Street—Maternity—one patient ;

60, Park Road—Maternity—two patients ;

183, Drake Street—Medical and Surgical—four adults and four children ;

62, King Street East—Maternity—one patient ;

The Law Nursing Home, Manchester Road—Medical—34 patients.

No adverse reports have been received during the year regarding the conduct of these Nursing Homes.

## Hospitals.

The public and voluntary hospital services in the district provide 994 beds for sick, as shown below :—

### PUBLIC HOSPITALS—

Birch Hill Hospital—General Medical and Surgical	417 beds
do. Maternity ... ..	58 ..
Birch Hill Institution—Epilepsy, Mentally Infirm, etc.	148 ..
Marland Hospital—Infectious diseases ... ..	120 ..
Springfield Sanatorium—Pulmonary Tuberculosis (females) ... ..	36 ..
Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital—Pulmonary Tuberculosis (males) ... ..	55 ..

### VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS—

Rochdale Infirmary—General (chiefly surgical) ...	110 ..
The Memorial Home—Orthopædic ... ..	50 ..

In addition to this number arrangements have been continued during the year to send selected cases of tuberculosis to various sanatoria, i.e., Stannington, Nr. Morpeth ; Eastby, Nr. Skipton ; Crossley Sanatorium, Delamere ; and The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopædic Hospital, Oswestry.

Three beds are also retained at the Hyde Smallpox Hospital for cases of smallpox which may occur within the Borough.

The extent to which the hospitals under the control of the Corporation have been used during the year is shown in the following summary :—

	No. of Beds available	In Hospital on Dec. 31 1937	No. of Cases admitted during the year	Occupation of Beds		
				Average daily No.	Highest No.	Lowest No.
Marland Hospital ...	120	52	675	66	104	39
Birch Hill Hospital ...	475	390	*3408	375	432	335
Birch Hill Institution ... (Epileptic and mentally infirm cases)	148	139	137	144	155	133
Springfield Sanatorium ...	36	10	22	28	33	23

\*Excluding 795 infants born in Hospital.

These Institutions serve Rochdale County Borough and the adjacent County Districts.

### The General Hospital, Birch Hill.

This Hospital serves the Rochdale County Borough and the adjoining County Districts of Whitworth, Milnrow, Littleborough and Wardle with a total estimated population of 123,152.

The demand for the services of the Hospital continues to increase annually. Last year there were 3,408 patients admitted (excluding infants born in hospital), as compared with 3,314 in 1937, 2,913 in 1936, and 2,723 in 1935.

The patients discharged during the past year include 1,261 children under 16 years of age and 2,440 adults. In the Maternity Home there were 833 women confined, and 795 live births were registered. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 749 and 719 respectively. Surgical operative work has almost doubled in extent during the past seven years, and in 1938 there were 699 surgical operations under a general anæsthetic including 300 abdominal sections. The past year constitutes another record.

	Year 1938 Year 1937	
Total number of admissions (including infants born in hospital) ... ..	4203	4033
Number of women confined in hospital... ..	833	749
Number of live births ... ..	795	719
Number of still-births ... ..	47	39
Number of deaths amongst the newly-born (i.e., under 4 weeks of age) ... ..	26	26
Total number of deaths amongst children under one year	56	53
Number of maternal deaths among women confined in hospital ... ..	5	2
Total number of deaths ... ..	504	529
Total number of discharges (including infants born in hospital) ... ..	3701	3506
Duration of stay of patients—		
(a) Four weeks or less ... ..	3279	2894
(b) Exceeding four weeks but under thirteen weeks	701	903
(c) Exceeding thirteen weeks ... ..	225	238
Number of beds occupied, average during the year 1938 (highest 432 on 21/1/38, lowest 335 on 26/9/38)	375	382
Number of surgical operations under general anæsthetic (excluding dental operations) ... ..	699	582
Number of abdominal sections ... ..	300	241
Number of pathological and microscopical examinations	1830	1340

Further details of type and classification of cases dealt with and accommodation provided at this hospital are shown in Tables IX, X, and XI. Appendix.

The "Five Year Plan" for the development of hospital services at Birch Hill Hospital has been further continued, and during the year the Nurses' Lecture Hall and Staff Canteen were completed. The new Nurses' Home and the Operating Theatre Unit, together with Massage and Artificial Light Treatment Departments are nearing completion, and it is anticipated will be in occupation during the latter part of the coming year.

Plans for the modernising and extension of one of the Chronic Blocks have now been approved by the Ministry of Health, and it is hoped to proceed with this work at the earliest opportunity.

### Dental Work.

I am indebted to Mr. H. Senior Ashworth, Dental Surgeon, for the following statement of dental work carried out at Birch Hill Hospital, Cottage Homes and the Public Assistance Institution during the year :

Visits to Birch Hill Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	98
Inspections at Cottage Homes	...	...	...	...	2
Extractions ...	...	...	...	...	674
Fillings ...	...	...	...	...	197
Scalings and Gum Treatment	...	...	...	...	72

"I have attended the Cottage Homes for inspections and am pleased to report the continued improvement in the general condition of the children's teeth."

"Each inmate of the Male and Female Mental Wards has been examined and received the necessary treatment."

"Four Orthodontic Appliances have been supplied and dentures repaired for certain patients. A General Anaesthetic, other than Nitrous Oxide, has been administered to four patients for multiple extractions."

### Blood Transfusion Service.

This service has been inaugurated during the year and developed on lines adopted at the Rochdale Infirmary. The same panel of donors as serve the Infirmary have expressed their willingness to serve also Birch Hill Hospital.

This panel is made up mainly of members of the local T.O.C. H., and the Health Committee are grateful for services rendered by several members during the year.

### Joint Consultative Committee.

The Joint Committee consisting of representatives of the Health Committee and of the Rochdale Infirmary, appointed for the purpose of co-ordinating the hospital services, have continued their regular meetings, and many matters of mutual interest affecting general hospital administration have been discussed.

### Hospital Recommends.

The Corporation are able to supply a limited number of "Recommends" for admission to the following institutions :—



Manchester Royal Eye Hospital ;  
 Manchester Royal Infirmary ;  
 Rochdale Infirmary ;  
 Royal Manchester Children's Hospital ;  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester ;  
 Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton.

Applications for these "Recommends" should be made to the Public Health Offices, and should be accompanied by a medical certificate or written request from the hospital concerned.

### Marland Hospital and Springfield Sanatorium.

A report on the work of these institutions is given in a later part of this report.

## Maternity and Child Welfare

### Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The number of births notified as occurring within the Borough was 523—by midwives 502, by doctors and parents 21. Births occurring at Birch Hill Maternity Home and classified to Rochdale totalled 642. This Act requires births to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of their occurrence, and with few exceptions the provisions of the Act were generally complied with.

### Health Visitors.

There are six Health Visitors fully employed in maternity and child welfare work. In addition to their regular attendances at the infant welfare centres, ante-natal and post-natal clinics, they made over 12,800 visits to homes where there are infants and young children, and over 500 visits to expectant mothers, as shown in summary below :—

Classification of Visits							No. of Visits
Primary Visits to Births notified (or otherwise reported)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,142
" " re Still Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Subsequent Visits to Infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,046
Subsequent Visits to Infants and Young Children 1—2 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,884
" " " " 2—5 "	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,752
Ante-natal Cases—							
Primary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	286
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	247
Post-natal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits under Children Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Infectious Diseases (chiefly Children)	...	...	...	...	...	...	172
Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Milk Distribution Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Miscellaneous Visits—re Medical and Midwifery Fees, Convalescent Homes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	169
							13,919
Unsuccessful Visits (house closed or occupier out)	...	...	...	...	...	...	921
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,840



### Infant Welfare Centres.

There are five centres in different parts of the town, with nine sessions weekly—four during the mornings and five during the afternoons, Monday to Friday. Owing to the heavy demands on the clinic services, an additional morning session has been arranged at St. Clements, Spotland.

The attendance of mothers and children showed a further increase from 30,000 to nearly 34,000, due chiefly to the increased attendance of the group of children between two and five years of age. This is a record figure and has necessitated the appointment of an extra part-time Medical Officer for attendance at three clinic sessions weekly.

At the various clinic sessions the average attendance varied from 37 (Norden) to 87 (Castleton), while the attendance at all Centres averaged 428 as compared with 459 the previous year; a reduction due to the spreadover of attendances following the additional clinic session arranged during the year.

The number of children who attended for the first time and who, at the date of their first visit, were under one year of age was 891, or 80.8% of the notified live births, as against 834, or 73.3%, for the year 1937.

Details of attendances at the various centres are given below :

Centre	New Cases admitted during 1938	Total Attendances of Children			Average Attendance per Clinic Session	No. of Medical examinations by M.O.
		under 1 yr.	1—2 yrs.	2—5 yrs		
(a) Baillie Street * (Wardleworth)	207	3,827	1,561	1,151	68 (61)	1,560
(b)*St. Luke's ...	179	3,989	1,948	1,342	77 (122)	1,217
(c)*St. Clement's    ...	186	3,439	1,490	1,576	77 (90)	1,306
(d) Baillie Street * (Castleton) ...	257	4,322	2,055	1,462	82 (79)	1,815
(e) Castleton ...	68	1,989	1,245	845	87 (79)	479
(f) Norden ...	81	855	370	501	37 (28)	374
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>18,421</b>	<b>8,669</b>	<b>6,877</b>	—	<b>6,751</b>
<b>Corresponding Figures 1937 ...</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>17,608</b>	<b>6,863</b>	<b>5,345</b>	—	<b>6,600</b>

Attendances during 1937 shown in brackets.

\* Two Clinic Sessions per week.

|| An additional Clinic Session per week added during 1938.

The Health Committee again take this opportunity of expressing their indebtedness to the members of the Ladies Executive Committee and other co-opted voluntary helpers who give so much of their time and assistance at the various clinics, and in many other ways.

### National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

We are indebted to the local branch of this society and to their Inspector for their ready and willing co-operation with this department in dealing with cases of neglect, uncleanness, and similar conditions coming within the purview of the Medical Officer and Health Visitors throughout the year.

### Provision of Milk and Food Preparations.

Milk and food preparations are supplied free to necessitous, expectant and nursing mothers, and to children under five years of age, mainly to children under three years of age, on medical grounds and not on grounds of poverty. The recommendations of the Medical Officer as to grants of milk and food are based on an approved income scale, and are submitted monthly to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for approval.

The quantity of dried milk and food distributed to necessitous families continues to increase, due mainly to unemployment and the increased attendances at the Clinics.

The cost of milk and food preparations distributed under this scheme is now about £2,000 per annum.

There were 766 necessitous families who shared, without payment, in the supply of 3,582 gallons of fresh milk, 176 cwts. of dried milk food, such as Cow and Gate, Ambrosia, Ostermilk, etc., and 9,136 packets of food preparation, such as Maltoline, Virol, etc.

Comparative figures are given below :—

Food	Quantities Supplied			Cost of Food	
	At Cost Price	Free of Cost		Distributed Free of Cost	Distributed at Cost Price
	Quantity	No. of Families	Quantity		
Fresh Milk ...	—	186	Gallons 3582	£ s. d. 408 2 8	£ s. d. —
	—	(147)	(2779)	(284 10 9)	—
Dried Milk (Ostermilk, Ambrosia and Cow and Gate, etc.)	Lbs. 11618 (10199)	580 (519)	Lbs. 19781 (17058)	1236 4 0 (1061 2 6)	772 3 7 (637 8 9)
Food Preparations (Maltoline and Virol, etc.) ...	Pkts. 6367 (4961)	— —	Pkts. 9136 (5938)	166 18 5 (106 12 7)	124 18 1 (99 16 5)

(Figures for the year 1937 are shown in brackets).

### Mid-Day Meals.

The arrangement between the Health Committee and the Education Committee to supply mid-day meals at the approved Dining Centres to necessitous and expectant and nursing mothers, and to children between three and five years of age who are not attending an Elementary School, has been continued during the year.

There were 554 meals supplied as compared with 280 meals during the last three months of the year 1937 when this scheme was in operation.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

As part of the general scheme for protection against Diphtheria arrangements for the immunisation of children under five years of age who attended the various Child Welfare Clinics have been continued during the year, and 113 children of that group—87 at the clinics and 26 at the Nursery Schools—were immunised. The immunisation of children at the Elementary Schools is reported upon in the section of this Report dealing with School Medical Services.

### Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

Owing to the increased demand for this service an additional clinic session was provided during the year at Baillie Street Council School, where there are now four clinic sessions each week—one on Tuesday afternoon and one during each morning of Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

One Post-Natal clinic session is held every Friday afternoon in the same premises.

Commencing January 1st, 1938, the existing Ante-Natal Clinic held at Birch Hill Hospital was officially recognised, and one clinic session is held each week.

The number of expectant mothers attending the Baillie Street Ante-Natal Clinic and the clinic at Birch Hill Hospital is shown in comparative figures below :—

	Year	From Rochdale		From County Districts		Total	
		1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938
No. of Expectant Mothers attending ...	...	755	858	103	182	858	1,040
No. of Attendances ...	...	4,330	4,616	416	977	4,746	5,593
*Average attendance per session ...	...	28.5	22.0	2.7	4.6	31.2	26.6

\* One extra session added at Baillie Street and one at Birch Hill Hospital during the year.

The 858 Rochdale patients who attended these clinics during the year represent 73.6 per cent. of the total notified (live and still) births of this Borough, as compared with 67.7 per cent. in the previous year and 59.7 in the year 1936.

It may also be noted that the total attendances of patients has again shown a substantial increase.



Where necessary patients are followed up after attendance at the clinic by home visitation, and last year the Health Visitors paid 533 visits in this connection.

The attendances at the Post-Natal Clinic are set out in the Table below, both for Rochdale patients and patients from other Areas. Again these figures show a satisfactory increase :—

	From Rochdale		From County Districts		Total	
	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938
No. of Mothers attending	180	237	33	44	213	281
No. of attendances ...	295	317	52	63	347	380
Average attendance per session ...	6.7	7.0	1.2	1.4	7.9	8.4

#### **X-Ray Facilities.**

The X-Ray facilities at Birch Hill Hospital are available when the Medical Officer desires further information as regards any patient attending the Ante-Natal Clinic.

#### **Consultant Services.**

Dr. E. A. Gerrard, of Manchester, continues to act as Consultant Obstetrician to this Authority, and in addition Dr. Evans, who acts as Senior Assistant Resident Medical Officer at Birch Hill Hospital, and is in clinical charge of the maternity services, is also available for consultation when required.

#### **Emergency Maternity Unit.**

Following receipt of the Ministry of Health's circular No. 1622 the Health Committee established an Emergency Unit to be operated from Birch Hill Maternity Home and available at short notice day or night.

The Unit consists of Dr. Evans, who is in clinical charge of the Ante-Natal Clinic and Maternity Service, together with a Nurse and necessary equipment for dealing with emergencies at any home within the Borough of Rochdale or in the adjoining County Districts of Milnrow, Littleborough, Wardle and Whitworth.

Doctors practicing in this Area have been furnished with full particulars of this service, which during the past year was called upon on two occasions.

#### **Orthopaedic Clinic.**

There is at present no separate scheme for orthopaedic treatment in the case of children under five years of age, but children in this group who attend the Infant Welfare Centres and are found to require expert opinion or treatment, are referred to the local clinic carried on by the Crippled Children's Union, under the direction of Dr. W. H. Bateman, whose services we gratefully acknowledge.

### Maternity Outfits.

Outfits containing the necessary clothing, linen, etc., for mothers and newly-born infants are loaned out free to poor families where the confinement is arranged to take place at home. Three outfits were loaned during the year.

Sterilised Accouchement Outfits may be obtained at the Infant Welfare Clinics at cost price, and in necessitous cases are supplied free.

### Dental Services.

The arrangements with the Education Committee for the services of the School Dentist for the dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five years of age, have been continued and extended in scope during the year, by the addition of a clinic on Wednesday afternoon of each week. For the convenience of patients resident in the Castleton and Norden districts, arrangements have been made for attendance at the dental clinics held from time to time at the schools in these districts.

Under this scheme seven mothers have been provided with dentures free of charge or at part cost.

The dental work carried out in the nature of extractions and small fillings necessary for clearing septic conditions is given below :—

					Mothers		Children under 5 yrs.
No. of Extractions	...	...	...	...	254	...	39
No. of Fillings	...	...	...	...	12	...	17
No. of Scalings	...	...	...	...	8	...	—
Gum treatment	...	...	...	...	5	...	1
Anæsthetics—							
(a) Local	...	...	...	...	86	...	20
(b) General	...	...	...	...	—	...	2
Other Minor Operations	...	...	...	...	14	...	9

### Medical Assistance.

Registered Midwives attending maternity patients and acting in accordance with the regulations of the Central Midwives Board made 187 calls requiring the attendance of a medical practitioner in the case of some emergency or abnormality arising during pregnancy, labour or lying-in, and 33 calls in respect of some abnormal condition of the child. The corresponding figures last year were 217 and 30 respectively.

In 124 cases the Medical Practitioner's fee was paid by the Local Authority, amounting to £200, as against £187 in the year 1937. The Local Authority is empowered by the Midwives Act to recover these fees from patients where family circumstances allow, but last year only 28 such reclaims, amounting to £41, were made.



### **Midwifery Fees.**

The Local Authority pay the midwifery fee in cases where the family circumstances are poor and where there is no maternity benefit available. During the year the fee was paid or allowed in whole or part in 56 cases.

### **Maternity Home.**

The Maternity Home at Birch Hill provides 58 beds, including 10 beds for Ante-Natal purposes.

The past year has registered a further record in the number of maternity patients admitted—925 as against 885 the previous year. The number of women confined in the Home was 833 (795 live births and 47 still-births).

The scale of charges for maintenance has been revised, and the minimum charge is now £2 19s. 6d. for the first fourteen days, and thereafter at the rate of £2 16s. 0d. per week, but in necessitous cases this fee may be reduced or even cancelled. There were 368 cases during the year assisted in the charge for maintenance, as against 266 the previous year.

### **Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.**

There were two cases of puerperal pyrexia notified as compared with an average in this group of fever and pyrexia during the previous five years of 2.4 and 5.6 respectively. Both cases occurring in 1938 were removed to Marland Hospital.

### **Maternal Mortality.**

There were four deaths registered and classified by the Registrar General as due to Puerperal causes, as compared with seven the previous year, and four in 1936. Calculated per 1,000 total births (live and still-births) the mortality rate was 3.5, a definite reduction on last year's figure of 6.1.

One of these cases showed very clearly the impossibility of including in the scope of a Maternity Scheme persons who do not wish to co-operate. The midwife in this case was booked four days before the anticipated date of the confinement and even then the patient refused examination on the grounds that this was her sixth confinement, and she had never been examined in previous pregnancies. The patient's physical condition was unsuited for full time pregnancy.

The remaining three cases each presented interesting obstetrical problems without showing evidence of failure of the general scheme in any of its essential branches.

Comparative figures of maternal mortality in this Borough and in neighbouring towns during the past seven years are given below :—

TOWN	MATERNAL MORTALITY PER 1,000 LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS		
	1938	1937	Average 5 years 1932-36
BLACKBURN ... ..	4.09	5.64	4.47
BOLTON ... ..	6.20	5.67	5.67
BOOTLE ... ..	0.62	4.10	2.95
BURNLEY ... ..	3.67	1.79	7.43
HALIFAX ... ..	2.92	2.27	8.00
HUDDERSFIELD ... ..	4.32	1.22	6.56
OLDHAM ... ..	2.28	3.36	6.99
PRESTON ... ..	1.62	2.40	6.69
ST. HELENS ... ..	5.83	7.15	4.31
STOCKPORT ... ..	2.94	8.39	3.95
WARRINGTON ... ..	2.93	1.42	5.29
WIGAN ... ..	2.10	2.81	5.05
Average 12 Towns ...	3.29	3.85	5.61
ROCHDALE ... ..	3.50	6.09	3.05
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF			
LANCASTER ... ..	3.61	5.01	4.87
ENGLAND AND WALES ...	2.97	3.13	4.07

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Six cases of Ophthalmia have been notified during the present year, five of which made good recovery with vision unimpaired; the remaining case, unfortunately, died as the result of an attack of bronchial pneumonia. During 1937 there were no cases reported. The average for the past five years 1933-37 was two cases.

### Child Life Protection.

The Health Visitors act as Infant Protection Visitors under the Public Health Act, 1936, which makes provision for the supervision of children up to the age of nine years who are cared for by some person during the day and night and maintained "apart from their parents." At the end of the year there were 13 persons registered as receiving children for reward, and the number of children concerned was 13.

Comparative figures are given below :—

		Year 1938		Year 1937
NUMBER OF FOSTER PARENTS ON REGISTER :—				
(a) At the beginning of the year	...	10	...	8
(b) At the end of the year	...	13	...	10
NUMBER OF CHILDREN ON REGISTER :—				
(a) At the beginning of the year	...	10	...	8
(b) At the end of the year	...	13	...	10
(c) Who died during the year	...	Nil	...	Nil
(d) On whom inquests were held during the year	... ..	Nil	...	Nil

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

I am indebted to the Chief Officials of the various Departments of the Corporation for information included in this section of the Report.

### Water Supply.

The arrangements for the regular bacteriological examination and the chemical examination of water from the reservoirs have been continued during the year, and no adverse reports have been received. Water supplied from these reservoirs is tested daily against plumbo-solvency by the determination of the pH value.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

There have been no important extensions of sewerage during the year.

A contract has, however, been let for the construction of tanks for the purpose of treating the sewage by means of activated sludge, and the work is now in hand.

### Rivers and Streams.

The Rivers Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee are primarily responsible for the prevention of pollution of rivers and streams in the area, but as much assistance as possible is given by report to the Joint Committee of any cases which come to the notice of the Borough Surveyor.

### Public Cleansing.

There were no important changes in this service during the year. A full outline of this organisation has been given in previous reports.

### Closet Accommodation.

The accommodation in the Borough at the end of December, 1938, was as follows :—

Fresh-water Carriage System	...	...	...	...	...	25,294
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1,676
Waste-water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1,918
Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	...	41

### CONVERSION OF PAIL CLOSETS AND WASTE-WATER CLOSETS TO THE FRESH WATER-CARRIAGE SYSTEM.

The original number of pail closets which existed in the Borough in 1911 was approximately 14,031 ; in October, 1933, this was increased by 453 by the inclusion of Norden and Bamford districts, and at the end of last year (1937) the total of 14,484 had been reduced to 1,839, of which only 275 could be dealt with.

The position now is that 12,084 have been converted and 546 have been done away with under the conversion scheme as not being required, leaving an estimated total of 1,676 pail closets still to be dealt with, of which 1,167 are at dwellings. The statement of the number of closets converted since the commencement of the work in 1911 is appended in Table I., and is shown in five-year periods.

It will be seen from the Table that 1,955 additional closets have been installed for the purpose of bringing joint accommodation up to separate, and if these are included the total number of closets completed is 14,039.

### Analysis of Remaining Accommodation—Separate Accommodation.

Table II. shows that of the 1,167 pail closets remaining at dwellings, 503 are separate accommodation and 664 joint accommodation. Of the 503 separate closets 94 can at present be dealt with under the conversion scheme. There are 409 of these separate closets, the conversion of which is held up by :—

- (1) Unsuitability or insufficiency of sewers ;
- (2) Owing to being situated in areas to be dealt with in the Housing Committee's Schemes either by demolition or by breaking through of the houses.

The cases which do not come under the conversion scheme proper and to which the Committee do not contribute number 452. These are situated at mills, workshops, churches, clubs, schools, etc., but only 86 of these can be dealt with. In addition, there are 57 closets at farms, of which only one can be dealt with.



### **Joint Accommodation.**

Of the 664 jointly used closets 630 are waiting for new sewers or are included in the Housing Committee's Schemes. These cannot be immediately dealt with, and, including those which are now in hand or in progress, there remains a total of 34 which at the end of 1938 were under consideration and for which there were Notices outstanding.

The small number of closets now annually converted is due in some measure to the policy of the Committee in discouraging expenditure on properties which owing to bad arrangement, lack of space, etc., are likely to come under the consideration of the Housing Committee when their schemes have been completed.

### **Notes regarding Table II.**

Table II., which is appended, gives in detail a statement of the pail closet accommodation in Rochdale in December, 1938.

It will be seen that the number of conversions held up for the want of proper sewerage is 856, and that 605 others cannot be considered owing to being involved in the Housing Committee's Schemes.

It will also be seen that 85 mills and workshops still have pail closets numbering 319, many of which cannot be converted for reasons shown. The Day Schools mentioned in the Table are Healey School and St. Paul's School, Norden, where no sewer is available.

Attention is drawn to the footnote of Table II., which gives the number of premises affected as distinct from the number of closets.

It will be seen that many conversions are here held over for want of sewers. Amongst these are several cases of outlying hamlets where the possibility of new sewers being constructed is very remote.

### **Waste Water Closets.**

The Health Committee now offer a contribution towards the cost of the conversion of waste-water closets to the fresh-water carriage system, as allowed for by the Public Health Act, 1936. At the commencement of the year there were approximately 2,160 waste-water closets, 1,500 being of the deep shaft type and 660 of the shallow type.

During the year 242 have been converted, and it is expected that this number will be increased during 1939.

**TABLE I.**  
**STATEMENT SHOWING PROGRESS OF CONVERSION**  
**WORK FROM COMMENCEMENT.**

Period					Conversions	Additional Closets Installed	Total
1911—1915	...	...	...	...	2646	208	2854
1916—1920	...	...	...	...	67	1	68
1921—1925	...	...	...	...	4705	355	5060
1926—1930	...	...	...	...	3220	1005	4225
1931—1935	...	...	...	...	1203	334	1537
1936	...	...	...	...	65	23	88
1937	...	...	...	...	108	24	132
1938	...	...	...	...	70	5	75
					12084	1955	14039

(a) 93 pail closets not required have been abolished during 1938.

**TABLE II.**  
**ANALYSIS OF PAIL CLOSET ACCOMMODATION**  
**REMAINING DECEMBER 31st, 1938.**

Class	Total	No sewer avail-able	Sewer unsuit-able	Scheduled in "Five Year Plan"	Remaining to be dealt with
Dwellings—Joint ...	664	148	22	460	34
Separate...	503	171	95	143	94
Churches, etc. ...	69	57	2	—	10
Factories, Works and Shops ...	319	132	117	—	70
Clubs ...	59	53	—	—	6
Licensed Premises ...	5	5	—	—	—
Farms ...	57	54	—	2	1
TOTALS ...	1676	620	236	605	215

No. of premises concerned :—

Farms ...	57	Schools and Churches ...	18
Licensed premises ...	2	Clubs ...	22
Workshops ...	85		

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

348 Preliminary or Informal Notices and 7 Abatement Notices for the abatement of nuisances and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings were served on owners and occupiers and resulted in the accomplishment of works given in the classified statement below. During the year it was found necessary in one case to apply for a Magistrate's Order for admittance to premises where a nuisance was suspected to exist and to which admittance had been refused.

### Statement of Removal of Nuisances in and around dwellings as distinct from work carried out under the Housing Acts.

NATURE OF WORK DONE	Nos.
<b>HOUSES—</b>	
Verminous dwellings cleansed ... ..	14
Houses limewashed and cleansed ... ..	10
House repairs—walls and ceilings (including dampness)	210
floors ... ..	29
roofs ... ..	71
General house fittings repaired (boilers, fire ranges, etc.) ...	40
"       "       " (doors, staircases and hand-rails) ...	19
House chimneys repaired ... ..	14
Window Cords Renewed ... ..	36
Window Frames Repaired ... ..	38
Eaves troughing repaired ... ..	29
Rain water pipes repaired ... ..	16
Rain water pipes disconnected ... ..	19
Waste pipes repaired and/or trapped ... ..	11
Insufficient ventilation to bedrooms ... ..	1
Slopstones replaced or repaired ... ..	7
Defective Coal Chutes and Grates repaired ... ..	1
Washing coppers repaired ... ..	4
Hot water system repaired ... ..	1
<b>YARDS, PASSAGES—</b>	
Yard surfaces repaired... ..	8
Yard Gates repaired ... ..	6
Yard Walls repaired ... ..	1
<b>ACCUMULATIONS—</b>	
Offensive accumulations removed ... ..	10
Stagnant water removed from cellars, passages, etc. ... ..	6
Accumulations of earth removed ... ..	1
<b>CLOSETS—</b>	
Water-closets repaired or altered ... ..	29
Additional closets provided—previously insufficient ... ..	5
(For pail closets converted see under conversion of pail closets)	
Pail closets and water-closets cleansed ... ..	1
Waste Water Closets repaired ... ..	1
W.C. cisterns—service pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	18

NATURE OF WORK DONE								Nos.
ASHPLACES—								
Ashplaces repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
DRAINS—								
Branch drains relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drains repaired only	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
New gulley tops provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Disused drains removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gullies cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Vent. Shafts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
GENERAL—								
Effluvium and dust nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Keeping of animals discontinued (dogs, fowls, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burning of refuse discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Private water supply cisterns cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective gas pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Discharge of sewage over land	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Noisy working of battery charging plant	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mine openings fenced off	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
NOTE.—See also under Factory and Workshops Acts, Additional works in connection with conversion, etc.								

### Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the Borough where rag flock is manufactured. It has not been found necessary to take any samples of rag flock for analysis.

### Shops Acts, 1912 and 1934.

During the year 135 inspections have been carried out, and 10 notices under the Acts were served in connection with contraventions of the requirements. All these notices have been complied with.

### Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

During the year 261 visits were made to premises regarding which complaints had been received under the above Act. One part-time rat catcher is employed by the Department, and the number of rats caught was approximately 320. The premises dealt with include slaughter-houses, dwelling-houses, shops and warehouses on which 767 rat-baits, 10 tins of rat lime, and 26 tubes of poison were used.



### Offensive Trades.

The number of premises at which these trades are carried on in the Borough is as follows :—

Tripe boiling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gut scraping	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fellmongering	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Knacker's yard (bone boiling)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

The number of visits to these premises during the year was 36.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### Retail Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses now on the register is 217. These have been regularly inspected, and cleansing and limewashing carried out on intimation from the Inspector in 67 cases.

A high standard of cleanliness has been generally maintained, and it has not been found necessary to issue any statutory notices in this respect.

#### Workshops.

468 inspections of workshops have been carried out during the year, and in 33 cases the sanitary arrangements have been improved. See Table XIII. Appendix for full particulars of inspections under these Acts.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The recorded observations during 1938 numbered 170. The observations were for one half-hour each, and were confined to factory chimneys in the Borough. The time limit for the issue of dense smoke fixed by the Town Council is two minutes per half-hour, and this time limit was exceeded during 1938 on 10 occasions. 9 Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, were served for the abatement of smoke nuisances during the year.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

#### (a) Public Baths.

The following report on the Corporation Baths has been kindly supplied by the Baths Superintendent :—

“ At the New Baths, Entwisle Road, and at Castleton, the Swimming Bath water is filtered, aerated and chlorinated to ensure bacteria-free water for bathing in.

" Tests are taken periodically throughout the day to ascertain the Chemical and Chlorine content, and Bacteriological tests have been taken of the water in the New Baths to make certain of the efficiency of the plant installed there, and these tests proved to conform to the Ministry of Health standards for Swimming Bath Waters.

" Four 10-ft. filters are installed at the New Baths for the filtration of the two Plunge Baths, and the entire contents of both baths are filtered, aerated and chlorinated once every  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours. At the Castleton Baths two filters are installed, and the turnover period is once every  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours."

**(b) Privately-owned Pools.**

The " Riviera " Open-Air Swimming Pool at Norden is the only one in the Borough, and the Manager has kindly reported as follows :—

" Filtration and Chlorination plant runs all the 24 hours, and tests are taken periodically throughout the day. The turnover is 100,000 gallons every eight hours. No bacteriological tests are now taken."

## HOUSING.

Statistics relating to the number of houses erected, inspections and action taken under the Public Health and Housing Acts are given below :—

### 1.—INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	692
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	1561
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses [included under sub-head (1) above] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	385
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	794
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	234
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	331

### 2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers... ..	383
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### 3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

#### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	...	14
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...					—

#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied :—						
Statutory or Abatement Notices	...	...	...			8
Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	...	307
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...					—

#### C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	136
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	70

#### D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...				67
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...				36

### 4.—HOUSING ACT, 1936—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING :—

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year						401
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...			410
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...			2332
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	48
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	16
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...				79

### Unhealthy Areas.

Official Representations in respect of 21 Clearance Areas and 1 Compulsory Purchase Area were submitted to the Housing Committee early in 1938; the appropriate Orders were made, and public inquiries were held by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health on May 24th, 1938, and on August 3rd, 1938. All the Orders were confirmed, with one minor modification.

The areas referred to comprised 204 occupied dwelling-houses, accommodating 717 persons, and 11 disused premises :—

- IVY PLACE AREA, consisting of 18 houses, accommodating 60 persons ;
  - SOUTH LANE AREA, consisting of 16 houses, accommodating 44 persons ;
  - NORTH LANE AREA, consisting of 6 houses, accommodating 17 persons.
- The Order was confirmed as regards 4 of these houses, and Closing Orders have since been made on the remaining two dwellings :
- SHEPHERD STREET AREA, consisting of 12 houses, accommodating 51 persons ;
  - WOOD STREET AREA, consisting of 5 houses, accommodating 20 persons ;
  - OGDEN STREET NO. 1 AREA, consisting of 8 houses, accommodating 36 persons ;
  - OGDEN STREET NO. 2 AREA, consisting of 7 houses, accommodating 20 persons ;
  - TIP PLACE AREA, consisting of 10 houses, accommodating 32 persons ;
  - GREEN PLACE AREA, consisting of 5 dwelling-houses (and 3 disused dwelling-houses), accommodating 10 persons ;
  - HOPE PLACE AREA, consisting of 4 houses, accommodating 11 persons ;
  - RAILWAY BROW AREA, consisting of 4 houses, accommodating 7 persons ;
  - CARR STREET AREA, consisting of 7 houses, accommodating 25 persons ;
  - BURY ROAD AREA, consisting of 3 houses (and 2 disused premises), accommodating 13 persons ;
  - NEVILLE PLACE AREA, consisting of 12 houses, accommodating 35 persons ;
  - HALIFAX ROAD AREA, consisting of 10 houses, accommodating 36 persons ;
  - CLEGG'S YARD AREA, consisting of 6 houses (and 2 disused houses), accommodating 28 persons ;
  - NORDEN ROAD AREA, consisting of 6 houses (and 3 disused houses), accommodating 24 persons ;
  - HIGH STREET NO. 3 AREA, consisting of 6 houses, accommodating 14 persons ;
  - MILLGATE AREA, consisting of 5 houses (and 1 disused house), accommodating 13 persons ;
  - PHOENIX SQUARE AREA, consisting of 15 houses, accommodating 58 persons ;
  - FOUNTAIN PLACE AREA, consisting of 6 houses, accommodating 28 persons ;
  - VINE PLACE AREA (Compulsory Purchase), consisting of 33 houses, accommodating 135 persons.



During 1938 three areas were inspected and reports prepared upon them. Representations will be presented to the Housing Committee early in 1939.

### **Disinfestation of Houses and Furniture.**

During 1938 the Housing Department have referred to the Public Health Department 18 Council houses found to be affected with vermin. 16 of these have been treated at the expense of the Housing Committee, either by the spraying of liquid vermicide, by fumigation with sulphur, or by both methods according to the extent of infestation. In most of these cases the picture rails, skirting boards, architraves, and covering woodwork have been removed and separately treated before being reinstated. The remaining 2 of these Council houses which were found to be badly infested, were vacated and treated with hydrocyanic acid gas; this treatment has proved very effective. The work of disinfestation has called for 166 visits for inspection and treatment.

In addition 4 houses not owned by the Council have been treated at the request and expense of the respective landlords, 10 visits being paid to these houses; the owner of 4 other houses made private arrangements for hydrocyanic acid fumigation, and the work was supervised by this Department.

In connection with the removal of tenants from Clearance Areas a system of disinfestation of furniture and effects by hydrocyanic acid gas was established in 1934. This is carried out by a firm of experts, and is supervised by the staff of this Department. The furniture is loaded into a large van, is taken to an open space at the Cleansing Department, and there treated in the van; the furniture is afterwards delivered to the house provided.

In order to avoid any possible risk to human beings from hydrocyanic acid gas, each family is supplied with a mattress and pillows for one night, their own bedding being released to them after thorough airing.

This method has proved eminently successful, and no opposition by persons alleged by this Department to have furniture requiring treatment has been experienced. The furniture and effects from 188 houses were treated in this way during the year, involving 752 visits by the Inspectors. 343 inspections of houses prior to the removal of the tenants to new Corporation houses were also made to decide whether treatment of the furniture and effects was necessary.

### **Common Lodging-houses.**

There are 12 of these premises registered, comprising 78 rooms, and providing accommodation for 724 persons, 707 beds being provided for the use of males and 10 for the use of couples or of females.

Regular visits of inspection are paid to these premises, and it has been found that, with few exceptions, they are conducted in a satisfactory manner. Some of the premises are not to be considered in all respects in accordance with modern standards.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Dairies and Cowsheds.

The number of farms on the register at the end of 1938 was 103. The number of visits paid by the Dairy Inspector was 146. During the year the following improvements have been made under notice from this Department :—

Shippons reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	9
New Dairies provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Middensteads provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Farms discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	2

In the case of five other farms which are under notice for improvement or reconstruction of farm premises, the work is in progress or has been arranged.

### Milkshops.

The number of shops retailing milk in bottles is 237, whilst the number retailing unbottled milk is 5. With the exception of two these are registered dairies. 208 visits of inspection were paid to these premises by the Dairies Inspector.

### Inspection of Premises used for the Preparation and Sale of Foodstuffs.

The inspection of all premises used for the preparation and sale of foodstuffs has received constant attention during the year, and 2,826 visits have been made. The use of 7 of these premises has been discontinued on notice by the Inspector. 15 notices have been served in respect of others for limewashing and cleansing.

### Rochdale Corporation Act, 1937.

During the year 25 premises were registered for the preparation and sale of ice cream ; 86 premises were registered for the preparation and sale of preserved foods, including sausages, pressed or pickled meats, fried fish, etc., and in 13 cases registration was refused and the use of premises discontinued.

34 premises were registered for the storage of foodstuffs by hawkers, and licences were issued to 36 hawkers of foodstuffs.

In connection with the registration of food-preparing premises under this Act, 30 notices were served, chiefly for the re-surfacing of walls and floors and for alterations to drainage, and all were complied with before registration was granted.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The number of recognised slaughter-houses in the Borough is 16 ; of this number three are registered and 13 are licensed annually.

During July of the present year a report on the slaughter-houses in this Borough was submitted to the Health Committee.

The following is an extract from the report :—

### **Situation.**

The position of most of the slaughter-houses in the Borough is unsatisfactory. Four of them adjoin dwellings ; the other premises, with the exception of one, are situated in densely populated neighbourhoods or are adjacent to factories.

### **The Buildings.**

Some of the buildings are structurally deficient or small, and need either pulling down and re-building, or the premises closed for the slaughtering of cattle, etc.

### **The Storage and Handling of Garbage.**

The slaughter-house refuse or garbage is handled by the Corporation Cleansing Department, and while this is a great improvement on the old system of middenstead, it needs, if possible, a daily collection of refuse from slaughter-houses.

### **The Handling and Storage of Meat.**

This is a difficult problem owing, in some cases, to the small premises used, no local slaughter-house possessing a cooling room, but in the two large wholesale slaughter-houses the premises are large enough to allow the carcasses to be hung far enough away from the process of slaughter so as to ensure very small risk of contamination.

### **Viewing by the Public and Children.**

Owing to the position of some of our slaughter-houses, which abut on streets or public pathways, slaughtering can be, and is, watched by children and the public. This may be regarded as a very bad feature and is in some cases due to the carelessness of the slaughtermen themselves.

### **Cleanliness of Slaughtering Premises.**

The slaughter-houses are, in the majority of cases, kept very clean. In all cases after slaughter the floors are washed and cleaned. The limewashing of the walls, etc., is carried out at frequent intervals, in some cases monthly ; this especially refers to the smaller premises.

### The Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

All cattle, calves and pigs slaughtered are stunned by a mechanically propelled instrument. The gun which is most used for the purpose is the Temple Cox Captive Bolt. In the case of sheep the Rochdale Town Council decided at the Council Meeting in April, 1934, that Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, should not be applied to the stunning of sheep (use of a mechanically propelled instrument).

The estimated number of animals slaughtered weekly at the recognised slaughter-houses is 938, made up of 113 beasts, 741 sheep, 71 pigs and 13 calves.

The consideration of this Report brought forward the general question of providing a Public Abattoir for Rochdale, but in view of a communication from the Ministry of Health intimating that Part 5 of the Live Stock Industry Act, 1937, provided for three experimental central slaughter-houses to be operated under schemes approved by the Live Stock Commission under the Act, and that it seemed probable that there was a greater measure of centralisation of slaughtering than there had been hitherto, the Committee decided to postpone further consideration of the matter.

### Meat and Food Supply.

The foodstuffs delivered in the Borough during the year, taken collectively, show a good standard of quality.

There has been regular inspection of meat and food offered for sale, and over 26 tons have been destroyed as unfit for human food as shown in the following summary :—

Disease or Condition						No. of animals affected	Weight in lbs.
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	205	44,123
Septicæmia	..	..	..	..	..	6	1,547
Pyæmia	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,792
Abscesses	..	..	..	..	..	89	890
Jaundice...	...	...	...	...	...	2	280
Pericarditis	..	..	..	..	..	37	118
Dropsy	..	..	..	..	..	11	2,172
Cirrhosis	..	..	..	..	..	205	2,050
Imperfect bleeding	..	..	..	..	..	19	1,988
Frozen Meat	..	..	..	..	..	..	875
Immaturity (Calves)	..	..	..	..	..	2	60
Actinomycosis	..	..	..	..	..	7	176
Swine Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	3	...
Unwholesome Food—							
Fruit and Vegetables						..	713
Fish						..	481
Hares						4	...
Turkeys						96	...
Ducks ...						36	...
Chickens						9	...
Rabbits						120 Couples	...
Tinned Goods						166 tins	...
Miscellaneous						...	1,446
<b>Total</b>						<b>26 tons 4 cwts. 0qr. 23 lbs.</b>	



No figures are available as to the actual number of animals killed at the slaughter-houses during the year, but 26,415 carcasses were inspected by an officer of the Department as shown below :—

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	Figures not available				
Number inspected ...	3009	1994	326	19465	1621
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	5	3	—	23	14
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	Bovine animals 220		—	51	67
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affect- ed with disease other than tuberculosis ...	4.55%		—	0.38%	5%
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	11	17	—	1	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	46	83	—	—	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.89%	5.02%	—	.005%	2.96%

### MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

#### Tuberculous Milk.

During the year 178 samples of milk have been taken in the Rochdale streets for the purpose of detecting supplies of tuberculous milk. These samples

represented the milk of about 2,136 cows, and were taken in batches at various periods of the year. Of the samples 107 were from Rochdale Borough farmers, and 71 from County farmers delivering milk in the Borough. The number found to be positively tubercular was :—

From Rochdale Farmers ...	...	...	...	...	7 (6.5%)
From County Farmers ...	...	...	...	...	2 (2.8%)

The following table gives the information concisely :—

Number of Samples taken				Samples Negative		Samples Positive		Percentage Positive
Jan.	{ Borough County	29	5	28	5	1	—	3.4% —
Feb.	{ Borough County	—	—	—	—	—	—	— —
March	{ Borough County	6	14	5	14	1	—	16.6% —
April	{ Borough County	22	4	19	4	3	—	13.6% —
May	{ Borough County	10	8	9	8	1	—	10% —
June	{ Borough County	14	6	14	6	—	—	— —
July	{ Borough County	8	12	8	11	—	1	— 8.3%
Aug.	{ Borough County	—	—	—	—	—	—	— —
Sept.	{ Borough County	—	—	—	—	—	—	— —
October	{ Borough County	11	9	10	9	1	—	9.1% —
Novem.	{ Borough County	7	13	7	12	—	1	— 7.7%
Decem.	{ Borough County	—	—	—	—	—	—	— —
TOTALS	{ Borough County	107	71	100	69	7	2	6.5% 2.8%
COMBINED	TOTALS ...	178		169		9		5.06%

It will be seen that 5.06% of all the mixed samples were found to contain tubercle bacilli, as against 4.17% in 1937 ; 3.97% in 1936 ; 8% in 1935, and an average of 7.87% in the preceding five years.

Until April 1st, 1938, each positive sample was followed up by secondary samples from all cows on infected farms. The number of secondary samples necessary for the Borough was 11. On April 1st the investigation of tuberculosis on farms was transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture, and no further secondary samples have been taken. Positive samples are now reported immediately to the Ministry of Agriculture Divisional Office, and all necessary action is taken by them.

The work is being continued on a similar scale during 1939.

#### Accredited Milk.

There were 17 farmers licensed for the production of Accredited Milk at the end of the year, and one out-of-Borough farmer holds a supplementary license to sell Accredited Milk.

#### Bacterial Counts, etc.

During the year 98 samples were taken at regular intervals for examination for bacterial count, coliform bacillus, and for the Methylene Blue Test ; of this number 56 were obtained from Accredited Producers, and the average results of these are summarised below :—

#### Report on the Examination of Samples of Milk from Accredited Producers.

No.	Bacterial Count per c.c.	No. of Samples taken	No. of Samples satisfying Methylene Blue test	No. of times Coliform Bacilli present in	
				1/10 c.c.	1/100 c.c.
1	12,739	3	3	—	—
2	6,899	2	2	—	—
3	11,113	2	2	—	—
4	7,872	4	3	1	—
5	57,342	4	3	1	—
6	40,820	3	3	—	—
7	1,983	2	2	—	—
8	18,390	3	3	1	—
9	21,883	3	3	—	—
10	23,433	3	3	1	—
11	156,312	5	4	1	—
12	5,651	3	3	—	—
13	14,733	3	3	1	—
14*	1,220,000	4	2	2	2
15	51,321	4	2	2	—
16	6,216	2	2	—	—
17	25,344	3	3	—	—
18	6,173	3	3	1	1

Standard adopted 200,000 bacteria per c.c.

\* The name of this producer was removed from the list of Accredited Producers early in 1939.

Of the remaining 42 samples, 36 were taken from non-accredited producers delivering milk in the Borough, and of these 29 were satisfactory on the application of the Methylene Blue test. 5 samples were taken from a dealer holding a supplementary licence to sell pasteurised milk—the average bacterial count was 4,780, four of the samples satisfied the Methylene Blue test, coliform bacilli were present in 1/10 c.c., in two of the samples, and were also present in 1/100 c.c. in one of the five samples. The remaining sample was sterilised milk and this was found to be satisfactory.

### FOOD AND DRUGS (Adulteration) ACT, 1928.

307 samples of food and drugs, as against 317 in 1936, were obtained by the Inspector, 10 of which on analysis were found not to comply with the requirements of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act. The following is a list of the samples obtained :—

Description	Number taken		Result of Analysis	
	Formally	Informally	Genuine	Adulterat'd
Milk ... ..	193	25	208	10
Butter ... ..	...	3	3	...
Margarine ... ..	...	5	5	...
Lard ... ..	...	3	3	...
Tea ... ..	...	7	7	...
Cream ... ..	...	2	2	...
Dried and Preserved Fruit ... ..	...	4	4	...
Coffee ... ..	...	1	1	...
Cocoa ... ..	...	1	1	...
Vinegar ... ..	...	2	2	...
Sweets ... ..	...	11	11	...
Sundry Groceries and Institutional Supplies ... ..	...	41	41	...
Whisky ... ..	6	...	6	...
Rum ... ..	3	...	3	...
Total ...	202	105	297	10

Of the 10 samples reported as adulterated, proceedings were instituted in four cases in regard to milk. Convictions were obtained in all cases, and fines totalling £26, together with analysts' fees and costs, were imposed. In two other cases the vendors were exonerated as a result of appeal to cow samples; two others were appeal to cow samples, and of the remainder one was only slightly below standard, and the other was an informal sample.



Seven appeal to cow samples were taken at farms.

A full analysis of milk samples in connection with which proceedings were taken is given in the following table :—

No.	Percentage of			Extent of Adulteration
	Fatty Solids	Non-Fatty Solids	Water	
68	2.98	7.23	89.79	14.9% Extraneous Water.
69	3.39	8.22	88.39	3.2%       "       "
77	2.77	5.37	91.86	36.8%       "       "
90	3.05	7.05	89.90	17%       "       "

### Borough Analyst's Annual Report.

" 307 samples were submitted, consisting of 218 milks, 11 sweetmeats (including chocolate), seven teas, six whiskies, five margarines, four dried fruits, three each of sausage, suet, jelly, butter, rum and lard, two creams and 36 miscellaneous samples.

" As shown by the following Table, the year 1938 has seen a remarkable fall in the number of adulterated and/or non-standard samples :—

Year	Number of samples analysed		Number of samples adulterated		Percentage of adulteration	
	Total	Milk	Total	Milk	Total	Milk
" 1934	475	412	37	27	7.0	6.5
" 1935	346	319	17	16	4.9	5.0
" 1936	319	248	24	24	7.5	10.0
" 1937	317	243	28	27	8.8	11.1
" 1938	307	218	10	10	3.2	4.5

" On this occasion, the adulteration was confined to milk samples and may be summarised thus :—

" Five afforded definite evidence of the addition of water to an extent varying from 2.1 to 36.8 per cent. ; four showed deficiency in fat varying from 2 to 29.3 per cent., while the remaining sample was reported as being 2.3 per cent. deficient in non-fatty solids. The Freezing-Point (Hortvet) of the latter sample, viz., 0.527°C., whilst arousing a suspicion that the deficiency was due to the presence of Extraneous Water, was too near the recognised limit of 0.530°C. to warrant its positive condemnation. Five ' appeal to cow ' samples taken in connection with certain of the ' watered ' samples were of normal quality, although in one case the Freezing-Point (Hortvet) was somewhat higher than is usually met with in respect of genuine milk. On the whole, the milk supply was of good quality and, once again, all samples were free from preservatives and colouring matter.

" All the spirits were of the required statutory strength, although two samples (Scotch Whisky) were of border-line quality and characterised by relatively-high extractive matter.

" Several varieties of sweets were examined and found to be free from metallic contamination and mineral additions.

" Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations were complied with in respect of the sausage, cream, dried fruit and other relevant samples, whilst the moisture content of the edible fats in no case exceeded the statutory limit of 16 per cent.

" The remaining miscellaneous samples were of approved commercial quality and call for no particular comment.

" It is, once again, with pleasure that appreciation is expressed of the ready help and co-operation of your Chief Inspector in carrying out the duties attached to the administration of the above Act.

" (Signed)

" S. ERNEST MELLING,

" Public Analyst."

## PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

### (A.) INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The general incidence of the chief infectious diseases during the past year has shown an increase from an average of 972 cases during the five years 1933-37 to 1,147 cases—chiefly due to diphtheria, scarlet fever and measles.

The outbreak of measles was almost entirely confined to the five months January to May, and the incidence was generally distributed throughout the Borough with the exception of the outlying districts of Castleton, Norden and Smallbridge.

Diphtheria was prevalent throughout the year, and apart from an outbreak of this disease at the Castlemere Boys' Home (26 cases reported) was not confined to any part of the town. Further reference to this outbreak is made in the attached report on school medical inspection.

Comparative figures are given below and further details as to age distribution and annual incidence are shown in Tables IV. and V., Appendix.

				Average 5 yrs.			
				1938	1937	1933-37	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	170	80	...	165.8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	234	56	...	110.0
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	116	109	...	107.2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	42	49	...	67.2
*Whooping Cough	...	...	...	74	16	...	66.2
*Chicken-pox	...	...	...	56	160	...	129.4
*Measles	...	...	...	406	259	...	269.6
Other Diseases	...	...	...	49	39	...	57.0
				1147	768	...	972.4

\* Not compulsorily notifiable. Information from reports of Head Teachers of Public Elementary Schools.

### Marland Hospital.

This hospital with 120 beds serves Rochdale County Borough, and also Middleton, Heywood and Whitworth by Agreement. On the 31st December, 1937, there were 52 patients in residence, and during the year 675 other patients, including Rochdale residents, were admitted—the highest figure in any one year since 1930 with 775 patients. Owing to the heavy demand for accommodation the hospital was closed in November to the admission of out-of-borough cases.

The case mortality was equal to 3.3 per cent. of the cases treated, as against 3.1 per cent. in the previous year.

Eleven of the 24 deaths during the year were due to diphtheria.

A summary of cases admitted to Hospital is given below :—

DISEASE	In Hospital on 31st December 1937	Admitted during the Year	Discharged	Died	Remaining in Hospital at end of Year 1938	Average stay in Hospital of Patients Disch'rg'd — Days	Ages of Patients Admitted		
							Under 5 Years	5—15 Years	Above 15 years
Scarlet Fever ...	19	244*	235	2	26	32	64	153	27
Diphtheria ...	29	352†	326	11	44	43	48	255	49
Enteric Fever ...	...	2	2	...	...	12	...	...	2
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	...	1	1	...	...	35	...	...	1
Measles ...	1	17	17	1	...	27	9	7	1
Dysentery ...	...	2	2	...	...	26	1	...	1
Erysipelas ...	...	20	18	2	...	19	2	2	16
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	2	4	6	...	...	28	...	...	4
Other Diseases ...	1	24	15	8	2	21	10	6	8
Tuberculosis ...	...	9	9	...	...	61	...	8	1
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>52</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>110</b>

\* Includes 1 case diagnosed as suffering from Simple Tonsillitis.

† Includes 9 cases diagnosed as not suffering from Diphtheria.  
(8 Simple Tonsillitis and 1 Simple Rhinitis).

### Antitoxin.

Diphtheria Antitoxin, Scarlatina Meningococcal and Erysipelas Sera are distributed, on behalf of the Department, from the Broadfield Pathological Laboratory to medical practitioners for use within the Borough. Outside Laboratory hours, supplies are available at Marland Hospital.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Since the inauguration of this scheme in 1934, 3,120 children have been immunised up to the end of the year under review. The progress of this scheme is still far from satisfactory, and it is intended to make a special effort to improve the response by the public during next year.

I am indebted to Dr. A. H. Heyworth, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, for the following report on diphtheria in previously immunised children :—

“During the year 1938, there were admitted to the Marland Hospital, 24 cases of notified Diphtheria from the Borough occurring in children who had previously had a recognised form of anti-diphtheria immunisation as shown in summary below.”

**Diphtheria-Immunised Cases admitted to Marland Hospital  
during the year.**

No.	Case	Age	Date of Immunisation	Units of A.D.S.	Remarks
1	G.S.	6	2/ 6/1933	200,000	True Diphtheria Resident 54 days.
2	B.H.	4	10/ 2/1936	20,000	Simple Tonsillitis plus K.L.B.
3	K.P.	11	22/ 2/1935	80,000	True Diphtheria
4	H.W.	8	3/ 5/1935	48,000	True Diphtheria plus much septic inflammation.
5	G.W.	10	14/ 5/1934	20,000	Simple Tonsillitis—No K.L.B. No membrane.
6	M.G.	7	23/ 3/1937	None	Simple Tonsillitis.
7	S.M.	7	8/ 2/1935	None	Very mild Diphtheria.
8	M.W.	10	21/10/1935	16,000	Simple Tonsillitis with K.L.B.
9	K.H.	9	4/ 4/1934	8,000	Temporary carrier.
10	M.S.	7	1/12/1936	8,000	Persistent carrier (Throat).
11	A.T.	8	8/ 6/1933	None	Very mild Diphtheria.
12	C.E.	7	10/ 8/1933	None	Simple Tonsillitis plus K.L.B. carrier.
13	J.N.	5	25/ 4/1938	None	Very mild Diphtheria.
14	B.C.	8	11/ 8/1934	80,000	True Diphtheria (Resident 48 days).
15	C.F.	7	6/ 6/1934	20,000	Simple Tonsillitis—no K.L.B. found (6 exams.)
16	D.K.	7	5/ 8/1935	80,000	True Diphtheria (Resident 53 days).
17	D.K.	6	21/ 4/1938	8,000	Very mild Diphtheria.
18	M.M.	5	29/11/1937	4,500	Carrier.
19	P.S.	7	9/11/1938	8,000	Carrier only.
20	J.B.	8	30/ 8/1938	16,000	Very mild Diphtheria.
21	B.W.	7	1936	None	Carrier only.
22	A.T.	9	1933	None	Very mild Diphtheria.
23	M.W.	6	1937	None	Very mild Diphtheria.
24	E.G.	6	1938	16,000	Very mild Diphtheria.

“Three cases were subsequently proved to be Simple Tonsillitis, in which there was no Diphtheria present and no Diphtheria germs demonstrable. (Two cases received serum [Nos. 5 and 15], and one case received no serum).”

“Four cases were subsequently diagnosed as Simple Tonsillitis in which there was associated a Diphtheria Bacillus, and of these, three cases received serum (Nos. 2, 4, 8), and one case received no serum.”



Five cases were found to have no Tonsillitis and no clinical Diphtheria, but were admitted to Hospital on account of Diphtheria organisms being found to be present in the respiratory passages, two being nasal carriers (9, 19), and three being throat carriers (10, 18, 21). Of these, three cases had been transferred from the Rochdale Infirmary where there had been minor epidemics (9, 18, 19).

12 cases were found to have true clinical and bacteriological Diphtheria. Of these, eight were of a very mild type with a limited extent of membrane, and of these three cases (17, 20, 24) received small doses of serum, and five cases (7, 11, 13, 22, 23) received no serum at all. Convalescence in these cases was uneventful and there was marked evidence of considerable resistance to the disease. These cases might easily have been missed in practice and thanks must be given to those Rochdale medical practitioners who recognised and notified these cases.

Three cases (3, 14, 16) were of moderate severity and each case received 80,000 units of A.D.S. One case had been immunised in 1934, and two cases had been immunised in 1935. They had uneventful recoveries and were resident 48, 53 and 60 days respectively.

One case (No. 1) was of extreme severity. He had been immunised in 1933. He received 200,000 units A.D.S. intravenously. Although critically ill, this patient made a marvellous recovery without any complications and was discharged from the hospital in very good condition after 54 days' residence.

The case was of undoubted severity of the same malignant type as that of a non-immunised female child admitted the same day and who received the same amount of serum but who unfortunately died within the week.

Two cases of the same malignant type of Diphtheria occurring in non-immunised children were admitted to the hospital on the two days immediately prior to the admission of this case. They received dosages of serum, 80,000 and 260,000 units respectively, but both cases died within ten days of being admitted to the Hospital.

The case is also comparable with that of the non-immunised boy (T.M.) of the same age and from the same district who was admitted to the Hospital some three weeks previously. This case received 120,000 units of serum by the intravenous and intramuscular routes. He was critically ill for several weeks and later developed almost complete paralysis of the limbs, the erector spinæ, the palatal and ciliary muscles. He was discharged after 122 days of special care and nursing in Hospital, and although he was even then in poor general condition which necessitated him being wheeled about in a bath-chair for months, he eventually made a good and complete recovery.

It appears obvious from this report, that each group of cases considered gives abundant evidence of the effectiveness of Anti-Diphtheritic Immunisation. All types of these cases have shown that resistance to the infection which is not found in non-immunised children. There is evident a reduction in initial severity of the case ; e.g., one markedly severe, three moderately severe, and 12 mild cases. There is a diminution in the length of stay in Hospital in each type of case, and there has been demonstrated a marked absence of sequelæ ; post-diphtheritic pareses and paralysis being completely absent.

The odd case in Group 1, which received no serum, shows that an immunised child can be nursed in a fever hospital without contracting Diphtheria.

Group 2, shows a case of a Septic Throat with the Diphtheria germs present in the throat, yet, although every circumstance is favourable, the case does not contract Diphtheria—and no serum was required.

Group 3, the "carrier" group, includes one case which was not given serum. She was resident 30 days, and although the bacillus of Diphtheria was present in the throat for the first fourteen days, thereafter repeated examinations showed that the organisms were no longer present.

The following table shows the number of deaths from Diphtheria which occurred in the Borough year by year from 1923 onwards :—

1923	...	8	1927	...	9	1931	...	21	1935	...	6
1924	...	1	1928	...	8	1932	...	9	1936	...	3
1925	...	7	1929	...	13	1933	...	15	1937	...	2
1926	...	5	1930	...	6	1934	...	7	1938	...	5

There has been a remarkable reduction in the number of deaths and, it follows, a commensurate diminution in morbidity, from Diphtheria, since 1933 when the free service of Anti-Diphtheria Immunisation was offered in the schools and Clinics of the Borough.

One speculates as to how long Democracy will permit this needless, though reduced, morbidity and mortality.

It would appear that Anti-Diphtheria Immunisation is of considerably more importance than Vaccination ; and to be at least as important as the issue of free food to necessitous cases. Its importance is such as to entitle it to a place in those routine services afforded by the M. & C. W. Clinics ; and it should be a " sine qua non " that a child should receive its protective immunisation against Diphtheria as soon as it begins to lose that partial inherited immunity which endures for a few months after birth in the majority of cases.

### Vaccination Act.

The administrative arrangements in respect of Vaccination remain as outlined in previous reports. There are three Public Vaccinators, and four Vaccination Officers each with a district.

No vaccinations were carried out during the year by the Medical Officer of Health in pursuance of the Public Health (Smallpox) Regulations, 1917.

A summary of the Vaccination Returns as forwarded to the Ministry of Health for the year 1937 is given below in comparison with 1936 figures.

	1937		1936	
	Total	Percent- age	Total	Percent- age
Number of successful vaccinations... ..	60	10.9	73	11.1
Number insusceptible to vaccination ... ..	...	...	1	0.2
Number of exemptions ... ..	449	81.5	513	77.9
Number died unvaccinated ... ..	19	3.4	30	4.6
Number not traceable, or removed to other districts, or postponed ... ..	23	4.2	41	6.2
Total number of children born ... ..	551*	100.0	658*	100.0

\* Excluding children born at Birch Hill Hospital.

These figures continue to show a high percentage of statutory exemptions from vaccination.

### (B) TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 116 cases of tuberculosis—respiratory and non-respiratory—notified as against 109 the previous year, and an average of 109 during the preceding five years 1932-36.

In the earlier years of compulsory notification 1913-17 the average annual number of notifications was 292, but this is now reduced to near the 100 figure.

Comparative figures are given below :—

Average 5 year periods	NOTIFICATIONS		
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Total
1913—17	184	108	292
1923—27	85	40	125
1933—37	81	26	107
1938	89	27	116

The 116 new cases notified, together with the number of deaths resulting from the disease, are arranged in the summary below :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
1—5 years	1	3	1	1	...	...	...	...
5—15 "	16	7	7	5	...	...	1	2
15—25 "	6	4	4	2	5	2	1	...
25—35 "	10	7	...	2	7	5	...	...
35—45 "	14	1	...	1	10	2	...	...
45—55 "	9	2	...	...	3	1	...	...
55—65 "	6	3	3	1	6	1	...	...
65 years and over	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
TOTAL	62	27	15	12	32	12	2	3

### Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Three clinic sessions have been held weekly as in previous years—Tuesday evening, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning, and the number of new cases examined shows an increase from 294 to 337—192 adults and 145 children. Of this number 133, or 39 per cent., were examined as contacts, while 196, or 58 per cent., were referred by general practitioners or the School Medical Officer for examination. This co-operation of the family doctor is encouraged and appreciated.

These cases are classified in the table below in comparison with the corresponding figures of 1937. It will be observed that 115, or 34 per cent., were diagnosed as suffering from some form of tuberculosis, as compared with 35 per cent. the previous year and 32 per cent. in 1936.



Sex	ADULTS								CHILDREN								Grand Total
	PULMONARY				Non- pulmonary	NOT tuberculous	Diagnosis not completed	TOTAL	PULMONARY				Non- pulmonary	NOT tuberculous	Diagnosis not completed	TOTAL	
	T.B. minus	T.B. + Groups							T.B. minus	T.B. + Groups							
		I.	II.	III.						I.	II.	III.					
ales	27	...	21	2	4	51	3	108	16	...	...	...	9	55	1	81	189
males	10	...	4	1	6	62	1	84	10	...	...	...	5	48	1	64	148
totals 1938	37	...	25	3	10	113	4	192	26	...	...	...	14	103	2	145	337
ar 1937	34	...	26	6	13	103	2	184	15	...	...	...	9	85	1	110	294

The work in connection with the Dispensary is shown detailed in Table VII., Appendix, and is here briefly summarised :—

	1938	1937
Number of New Cases examined ... ..	337	294
Total Number of Attendances of Patients ... ..	2,287	2,076
Number of Attendances of Old Cases ... ..	1,949	1,782
Average Attendance per Clinic (Year 1938—Highest 31 Lowest 4) ... ..	16	14
Number of Contacts examined ... ..	133	113
Dressings and Injections carried out during the year ...	447	407
Home Visits and Consultations by Tuberculosis Officer Year 1938—(103 home visits and 854 letters, telephones, etc.) ... ..	957	931
Home Visits by Tuberculosis Nurses ... ..	2,332	2,153
Number of necessitous patients who have had milk granted	44	35
Number of necessitous patients who have had malt and oil granted ... ..	3	7
Wasserman Tests taken at the Dispensary ... ..	3	10
Year 1938—(Negative 3,)		
X-Ray Examinations ... ..	146	122

### X-Ray Work.

Radiological work is chiefly referred to the Springfield Sanatorium, where 146 examinations were made on behalf of the Dispensary, as compared with 122 in the previous year.

### Extra Nourishment.

Grant of special nourishment in the form of milk or malt and cod liver oil are made to the non-insured persons and selected necessitous cases waiting admission to Sanatoria, or who may have received an adequate course of sanatorium treatment and may be expected to maintain or recover full working capacity. During the past year 47 patients received grants of extra nourishment for periods of three to six months or more :—

Milk	...	...	...	44 (28 adults and 16 children)
Malt and Oil	...	...	...	3 (3 children)

### Financial and Other Assistance.

Necessitous cases of tuberculosis were assisted in various ways during the year :—

(a) Clothing and footgear provided	...	...	36 (30 adults and 6 children)
(b) House rent paid from a special fund during residence of patient in Sanatorium	...	...	10
(c) Sets of Dentures provided	...	...	1

The Health Committee in September adopted a scheme providing for the loan of one bedstead with bedding to necessitous patients suffering from tuberculosis, and recommended for domiciliary treatment, thus providing facilities for the patient to have separate sleeping accommodation.

The general question of housing accommodation for families where a member is suffering from tuberculosis, has been referred to a Joint Committee of the Health and Housing Committees for consideration and report.

### Residential Treatment.

There were 46 patients in residence at various Sanatoria on the 31st December, 1937, and during the following year 130 other patients (81 male and 49 female) were admitted, chiefly to Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital (42) and Springfield Sanatorium (22), Memorial Home, Norden (21), and Shropshire Orthopædic Hospital (15). At the end of the year there were 51 patients remaining in residential institutions.

Details are given below :—

Institutions	In Hospital or Sanatorium on 31st Dec., 1937	Admissions			Discharged during 1938	Died	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1938	Average stay in Hospital of Patients disch'rg'd — Months
		Total	Males	Females				
Shelf Sanatorium .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	7.6
Wolstenholme Pulmonary Hospital .....	14	42	42	...	30	16	10	4.1
Springfield Sanatorium	10	22	...	22	15	3	14	7.3
Marland Hospital ...	...	8	8	...	8	...	...	2.3
Stannington Sanatorium	8	11	8	3	9	...	10	9.0
Eastby Sanatorium ...	5	5	5	...	5	...	5	10.2
Memorial Home, Norden	1	21	10	11	16	...	6	3.8
Shropshire Orth. Hospital	4	15	4	11	16	...	3	4.1
Crossley Sanatorium ...	3	5	4	1	5	...	3	9.3
Manchester Skin Hospital	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	0.5
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>46</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>51</b>	

### Springfield Sanatorium.

This institution, situated adjoining Springfield Park, provides accommodation for 36 female patients, one-half of which is reserved for women patients residing in the area of the Lancashire County Council. In addition to 22 Rochdale patients admitted there were 37 patients admitted from the County Area, making 59 in total, as against 75 the previous year.

The X-ray plant at this institution continues to give satisfaction. Its use is indispensable in the diagnosis of early pulmonary tuberculosis and in the control of collapse therapy cases. It is a valuable aid to prognosis and is used as a routine in estimating the progress and in determining the arrest of the disease.

The following table gives some indication of the amount of the work done.

### X-ray Examinations.

Year	In-patients		Out-patients		Total
	L.C.C.	Boro.	Boro.		
1934	...	20	2		22
1935	...	47	79		183
1936	...	46	159		252
1937	...	55	119		206
1938	...	46	170		246

Artificial Pneumothorax Therapy is the most successful method of treatment of unilateral pulmonary tuberculosis. Treatment was successfully induced on one case in 1936 ; five cases in 1937 ; and three cases in 1938 ; all Rochdale C.B. In-patients.

Refills given in the course of treatment of Artificial Pneumothorax cases have been given as follows :—

			Rochdale Borough Patients			
			In-Patients	Out-Patients		Total
1936	...	...	16	...	44	60
1937	...	...	24	...	78	102
1938	...	...	58	...	133	191

One in-patient from the Lancashire County Council had two refills during 1938, and the treatment was then discontinued.

#### Operations on the Phrenic Nerve.

The treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis by means of severing or removing a portion of the Phrenic nerve on one side, and thus restricting harmful respiratory movements of the diseased lung, was first instituted in Rochdale in 1932 ; and 10 operations of that nature (one male and nine female) were performed at the Marland Hospital during that year. In the following year, 1933, three operations (two male and one female) were carried out at Marland. In the Springfield Sanatorium, four cases received this treatment in 1935, one case in 1936, and four cases in 1938.

**Gold-therapy.** Sanocrysin, Myocrysin and Crisalbine preparations have been used ; Sanocrysin being found to be the most useful. During 1938, three Borough cases and three County cases received courses of treatment.

**“ Q ” Ray Compress.** The collar type of compress whereby heat is passed through radio-active elements has been of great service in the relief of the pain of laryngeal tuberculosis. Three County cases and two Borough cases received treatment.

Return relating to patients treated in residential institutions as forwarded to the Ministry of Health is reprinted in Appendix, Table VI.

#### Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1925 (Section 62).

The former relates to persons engaged in the milk or dairy trade who are suffering from Tuberculosis, while the latter confers powers for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. No occasion has arisen during the year where it has been found necessary to make use of the powers conferred by this Act and Regulation.



## (C) VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Clinic premises in Baillie Street are open daily for public service, and each week there are five medical clinics, of which three are held in the evening to suit the public convenience. Intermediate treatment may be obtained daily at stipulated hours. See Clinic Time Table p.p. 16

The clinic serves mainly Rochdale residents and those of the adjoining County districts, but persons resident in other areas may avail themselves of the clinic services and obtain treatment and advice without charge.

**Patients under Treatment or Observation.**

There were 655 patients (males 442, females 213) dealt with as against 674 the preceding year; and their residence or district of classification was: Rochdale 480, Lancashire County 162, and other districts 13. These numbers include 322 new cases attending the Clinic for the first time, as compared with 341 the previous year.

The patients dealt with during the last two years are classified in summary below according to type of disease:—

	Syphilis		Soft Chancre		Gonorrhoea		Conditions other than Venereal		TOTALS	
	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937	1938	1937
1.—Number of Cases on January 1st under treatment or observation ... ..	183	183	2	1	110	122	23	14	318	320
2.—Number of Cases removed from the Register during any previous year which returned during the year under report for treatment or observation of the same infection ...	4	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	6
3.—Number of Cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report (exclusive of Cases under Item 4) ...	62	67	...	2	138	166	122	106	322	341
4.—Number of Cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report known to have received treatment at other Centres for the same infection ...	3	5	...	...	8	2	...	...	11	7
TOTAL ...	252	259	2	3	256	292	145	120	655	674
Congenital syphilis in children under 15 years of age.	4	6	Total number of patients under treatment at end of year:—				Male Patients		179	194
							Female Patients		108	124

Returns from other districts show that 20 Rochdale patients received treatment for the first time at other Centres—Manchester 12, Salford 5, Bury 3.

### Clinic Attendances.

Comparative figures of attendances by patients for irrigation, dressings, etc., are shown below :—

	Year ending December 31st				
	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934
Number of patients under treatment ... ..	655	674	719	797	825
Attendances of patients :—					
(a) For individual attention of the Medical Officer ... ..	7968	8691	8584	9142	10593
(b) For intermediate treatment—					
Irrigation and					
Dressings ...	6939	9299	9378	9923	11838

### Pathological Examinations.

The arrangement with the Broadfield Laboratory for microscopical examination for gonococci and with the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, for serum tests for Wassermann reaction have been continued during the year.

The number of specimens examined at the approved Laboratories and by the Medical Officer at the Centre was 1,162, as against the previous year 1,313.

	1938	1937
From V.D. Clinic ... ..	494	424
From Private Practitioners ... ..	184	147
From Other Sources ... ..	76	70
Total examined at the Laboratories	754	641
Examined by the Medical Officer at Treatment Centre ... ..	408	672
	1162	1313

### Arsenobenzene Compounds.

There are 15 names of medical practitioners on the "approved list," and these doctors have applied for, and received, 265 doses of arsenobenzene compounds, as compared with 242 doses during 1937.

### (D) DISINFECTION.

Routine disinfection of dwelling-houses, schools and public buildings has been discontinued except following diphtheria and tuberculosis, unless specially desired by the householder or doctor in charge of the particular case.

321 rooms were fumigated, and, in many cases, also sprayed with formaldehyde, chiefly on account of tuberculosis or diphtheria infection.

## APPENDIX.

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TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1938, and previous years.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	LIVE BIRTHS			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.		
		Uncorrec'd Number	Nett		Number	Rate per 1,000 of est. population	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District	Of Residents Registered in the District	Under 1 year of age		At All Ages
			Number	Rate per 1,000 of est. population					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Live Births	
1928	90,720	1006	1248	13.8	1019	11.2	60	326	94	75	1285
1929	90,900	884	1295	14.2	1191	13.1	64	394	100	77	1521
1930	90,900	839	1245	13.7	956	10.5	52	350	82	66	1254
1931	91,160	797	1151	12.6	1044	11.4	51	376	76	66	1369
1932	90,550	785	1135	12.5	962	10.6	64	375	82	72	1273
1933	*91,340	664	1044	11.4	1038	11.4	80	413	93	89	1371
1934	94,450	743	1170	12.4	989	10.5	80	467	91	78	1376
1935	94,100	655	1094	11.6	913	9.7	79	477	93	85	1311
1936	93,250	657	1096	11.8	1020	10.9	65	453	76	69	1408
1937	91,940	551	1093	11.9	990	10.8	87	512	58	53	1415
Average for years 1928-1937	91,931	758	1157	12.6	1012	11.0	68	414	84	73	1358
1938	91,290	496	1096	12.0	881	9.7	89	479	69	63	1271

\* Estimated Population for statistical purposes only.



TABLE II.  
CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE,  
Year 1938.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH		Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
ALL CAUSES	...	M	609	38	4	3	8	17	70	203	179	87
	...	F	662	31	5	6	14	11	66	176	179	174
1—Typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
2—Measles	...	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
3—Scarlet Fever	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4—Whooping Cough	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5—Diphtheria	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6—Influenza	...	M	5	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
7—Encephalitis Lethargica	...	M	14	...	...	...	...	6	1	3	4	...
	...	F	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
8—Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	M	4	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...
9—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	32	...	...	...	5	17	9	1	...	...
10—Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	M	12	...	...	...	2	7	2	1	...	...
	...	F	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
11—Syphilis	...	M	3	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
12—General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	5	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	...
13—Cancer, malignant disease	...	M	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	79	...	1	...	...	5	34	30	8	...
14—Diabetes	...	M	102	...	...	...	...	4	47	36	15	...
	...	F	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
15—Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	...	M	11	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	2	...
	...	F	21	...	...	...	...	...	9	10	2	...
16—Heart Disease	...	M	24	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	8	...
	...	F	136	...	...	1	1	8	51	46	29	...
17—Aneurysm	...	M	173	...	...	...	2	17	36	57	61	...
	...	F	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
18—Other Circulatory Diseases	...	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
	...	F	67	...	...	...	...	...	13	28	26	...
19—Bronchitis	...	M	76	...	...	...	...	...	10	31	35	...
	...	F	26	...	...	...	...	1	7	9	8	...
20—Pneumonia (all forms)	...	M	28	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	18	...
	...	F	45	7	1	...	...	12	19	5	1	...
21—Other Respiratory Diseases	...	M	35	7	3	2	4	2	3	7	2	...
	...	F	5	...	...	...	1	...	2	2	...	...
22—Peptic Ulcer	...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...
	...	F	9	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	2	...
23—Diarrhoea, etc.	...	M	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...
	...	F	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24—Appendicitis	...	M	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
25—Cirrhosis of Liver	...	M	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...
	...	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...
26—Other Diseases of the Liver, etc.	...	M	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
	...	F	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...
27—Other Digestive Diseases	...	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
	...	F	14	...	...	...	1	4	5	3	1	...
28—Acute & Chronic Nephritis	...	M	13	...	1	...	...	1	3	4	3	...
	...	F	27	...	...	...	...	5	12	10	...	...
29—Puerperal Sepsis	...	M	27	...	...	...	1	1	3	15	5	2
	...	F	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
30—Other Puerperal Causes	...	M	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31—Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	...	M	24	24	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
	...	F	18	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32—Senility	...	M	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	...	F	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	11
33—Suicide	...	M	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...
	...	F	8	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	2	...
34—Other Violence	...	M	21	1	1	...	2	2	5	7	3	...
	...	F	20	1	1	...	2	...	4	4	4	4
35—Other Defined Diseases	...	M	56	2	...	1	2	3	4	14	21	9
	...	F	42	1	...	...	2	3	6	16	5	9
36—Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	M	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TABLE III.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Nett Deaths from stated causes at various  
Ages under one year of age—Year 1938.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH	AGE AT DEATH					Total Deaths under 1 year	
	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks to 3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	1938	1937
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ... ..	3	5	5	...	1	14	11
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tubercular Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	2	4	...	1	...	7	4
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility, Malformations, etc. ... ..	16	...	...	...	1	17	21
Premature Birth ... ..	25	...	...	...	...	25	14
Suffocation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes ... ..	2	1	1	...	1	5	2
ALL CAUSES ... ..	48	10	6	2	3	69	58

Nett Births in the year :—Legitimate 1038 ; Illegitimate 58.

Nett Deaths in the year :—Legitimate infants 66 ; Illegitimate infants 3

TABLE IV.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1938.

Disease	Total Cases Notified										Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45		45 to 65	65 and over	Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45		45 to 65	65 and over	Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...</

\* Not compulsorily notifiable. Information obtained chiefly through Head Teachers of Elementary Schools, and consequently only partially complete.

† The cases notified are Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, but the deaths include all forms of Pneumonia.

‡ Including only cases sent under local authority's scheme.

§ Includes 8 cases diagnosed as Tonsillitis, Croup, etc., after admission to Hospital.

¶ Includes 1 case diagnosed as Tonsillitis, after admission to Hospital.

**TABLE V.**  
**NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE**  
**during the years 1933 to 1938.**

Disease	Years					Annual Average		1938
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1928-1932	1933-1937	
<b>Compulsorily Notifiable—</b>								
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1.0	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	181	176	211	181	80	256.6	165.8	170
Diphtheria (incl. Mem. Croup) ...	203	150	86	55	56	134.4	110.0	234
Typhoid Fever (incl. Para Typhoid Fever) ... ..	...	1	3	1	3	3.2	1.6	2
Puerperal Fever ... ..	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	5	7	3	7	6	9.8	5.6	2
Erysipelas ... ..	40	36	42	37	25	30.8	36.0	36
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	4	...	2	3	0.6	2.0	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	4	...	...	...	1	1.6	1.0	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	4	3	...	4	...	6.8	2.2	6
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	91	75	67	95	78	83.4	81.2	89
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	24	25	27	23	31	35.4	26.0	27
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ... ..	34	2	...	...	...	0.2	7.2	...
Acute Enceph. Lethargica ... ..	1	1	2	2	1	3.4	1.4	1
Pneumonia ... ..	130	49	57	51	49	77.2	67.2	42
<b>Not Compulsorily Notifiable—</b>								
Whooping Cough ... ..	23	136	10	146	16	101.6	66.2	74
Chicken-pox ... ..	82	139	168	98	160	207.0	129.4	56
Measles and German Measles ... ..	11	661	129	288	259	557.2	269.6	406
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>1467</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>990</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>1510.2</b>	<b>972.4</b>	<b>1147</b>



TABLE VI.—Ministry of Health Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely tuberculous patients discharged from Residential Institutions during 1938

Pulmonary Tuberculosis																		
Classification to admission to the Institution	Class T.B. minus	Condition at time of discharge	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution												Totals			Total
			*Under 3 months but exceeding 28 days.			3-6 months			6-12 months			More than 12 months						
			M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	
			Quiescent ...	2	2	7	5	2	10	...	1	2	...	...	1	7	5	
Not quiescent	6	...	2	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	8	1	4	13		
Died in Institution	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4		
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Class T.B. plus Gr'p 1	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
		Not quiescent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
		Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Class T.B. plus Gr'p 2	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
		Not quiescent	5	...	...	6	4	...	2	3	...	...	1	...	13	8	...	21
		Died in Institution	4	2	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	9	3	...	12
	Class T.B. plus Gr'p 3	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
		Not quiescent	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
		Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
	TOTALS pulmonary		19	4	9	15	9	11	8	4	2	2	1	2	44	18	24	86
	Bones and Joints	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
		Not quiescent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	3
		Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Abdominal	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
		Not quiescent	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2
Died in Institution		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Other Organs	Quiescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Not quiescent	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Peripheral Glands	Quiescent ...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	5	
	Not quiescent	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Died in Institution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTALS non-pulmonary		...	2	3	...	...	1	...	3	4	...	1	1	...	6	9	15	

Patients whose stay in residential institutions has not exceeded 28 days are not included in this table.



**TABLE VIII.**  
**VENEREAL DISEASES.**

Extract from the Annual Returns showing the number of persons dealt with at the Treatment Centre during each of the five years 1934—1938.

	Y E A R				
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
(1) No. of persons who were under treatment, or observation, at the commencement of the year .. .. .	363	439	407	320	318
(2) No. of persons who ceased to attend in previous years and who returned to the Centre suffering from the same infection .. .. .	—	2	2	6	4
(3) No. dealt with during the year for the first time (new cases) .. .. .	462	356	310	341	322
(4) No. of persons who ceased to attend the out-patient clinic—					
(a) Before completion of treatment	68	60	65	57	33
(b) After completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure	28	32	24	32	23
(5) No. of persons transferred to other treatment centres for further treatment .. .. .	18	22	30	26	18
(6) No. of persons discharged—					
(a) After completion of treatment and observation .. .. .	156	186	185	144	166
(b) As not suffering from any Venereal Disease .. .. .	116	90	95	97	128
(7) No. of persons under treatment, or observation, at the end of the year ..	439	407	320	318	287

TABLE IX.

Ministry of Health Return.

## INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT OF THE SICK.

## BIRCH HILL HOSPITAL.

1. County or County Borough Council of ...	...	ROCHDALE.
2. Name and situation of Institution ...	...	Birch Hill Hospital, Rochdale
3. Define the area and give the population served by the Institution ...	...	Area—32,528 acres. Estimated Population—Mid. 1937 Rochdale Borough and Four adjacent County Districts ... 123,152
4. State whether Institution is : (a) an Institution } or (b) a Hospital } maintained under or (c) a General Hospital maintained under the Local Government Acts or the Public Health Acts		A General Hospital maintained under the Public Health Acts.
5. Staffing : Medical Superintendent ...	...	JOHN INNES, M.D., D.P.H. (Non-resident)
Principal Medical Officer ...	...	HARRY N. CROSSLEY, M.B., Ch.B. D.P.H. (Vict.). (Resident.)
No. of other resident medical staff ...	...	Three.
No. of visiting staff ...	...	Five.
Specialised services supplied...	...	Surgery. Ophthalmic ; Obstetric ; X-Ray ; Dental, Massage, etc., as required.
No. of (a) Trained Nurses ...	...	50 (including 18 Pupil Midwives).
(b) Probationer Nurses ...	...	52
(c) Assistant Nurses ...	...	11
(d) Male Attendants ...	...	3
6. State total number of beds provided in the Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases at 31st December, 1937—		
(a) for men ...	...	211 { excluding mental cases, which are
(b) for women ...	...	194 { accommodated at the Poor-Law
(c) for children (under 16 years) ...	...	70 { Institution. (excluding cots in maternity wards.
TOTAL ...	...	475



TABLE X.

Ministry of Health Return.

## BIRCH HILL HOSPITAL.

CLASSIFICATION OF ACCOMMODATION FOR SICK AND MATERNITY CASES AND NUMBER OF BEDS OCCUPIED ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1938.

Classification of Wards*	Number of Wards	BEDS							
		MEN		WOMEN		CHILDREN under 16 years of age		TOTAL	
		Pro-vided (3)	Occu-pied (4)	Pro-vided (5)	Occu-pied (6)	Pro-vided (7)	Occu-pied (8)	Pro-vided (9)	Occu-pied (10)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1. Medical ...	4	48	44	30	30	...	...	78	74
2. Surgical ...	2	40	28	44	36	...	...	84	64
3. Chronic Sick—†									
Male ...	2	117	80	56	56	...	...	173	136
Female ...	1 block }								
4. Children ...	6	...	...	...	...	70	54	70	54
5. Venereal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Isolation—‡	3	6	6	6	6	...	...	12	12
8. Maternity ...	{ 1 block & }	...	...	58	48	...	...	58	48
9. Mental—									
(a) Lunacy Act, 1890... ..	} Poor Law Institution.								
I. Short Stay									
II. Long Stay									
(b) Mental Treatment Act, 1930... ..									
I. Voluntary									
II. Temporary									
10. Mental defectives									
11. Other ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	19 plus 1 block	211	158	194	176	70	54	475	388

\* Cots in adult wards are entered in Col. 7; children in adult wards (whether in beds or cots) in Col. 8. Cots and infants in maternity wards are excluded.

† Patients needing hospital treatment because they are suffering from some chronic disease; also aged infirm persons whose medical and nursing needs approximate to those of the chronic patients.

‡ Reserved specifically for the isolation and treatment of infectious diseases (excluding Puerperal sepsis).

TABLE XI.

Ministry of Health Return.

## BIRCH HILL HOSPITAL.

Classification of In-Patients discharged from or who died in the Hospital during the year ending 31st December, 1938 :—

DISEASE GROUPS	Children (under 16 years of age)		Men and Women	
	Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A. Acute infectious disease (1) ... ..	15	...	25	9
B. Influenza (2) ... ..	1	...	25	2
C. Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary ... ..	1	...	15	5
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	3	2	9	...
D. Malignant disease ... ..	...	...	47	70
E. Rheumatism—				
(1) Acute rheumatism (rheumatic fever) to- gether with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea ... ..	24	...	12	...
(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called " rheumatism " (muscular rheumatism fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica) ...	1	...	39	...
(3) Chronic arthritis ... ..	...	...	17	2
F. Venereal disease ... ..	1	...	4	...
G. Puerperal pyrexia—				
(a) Women confined in hospital ... ..	...	...	5	...
(b) Other Cases ... ..	...	...	...	1
H. Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth ... ..	...	...	8	6
I. Mental diseases—				
(a) Senile dementia ... ..	...	...	4	...
(b) Other ... ..	...	...	4	...
J. Senile decay (3) ... ..	...	...	16	2
K. Accidental injury or violence (4) ... ..	14	...	63	7
In respect of cases not included above :				
L. Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organ	45	4	147	23
M.     "     "     Respiratory System ... ..	59	17	179	70
N.     "     "     Circulatory System ... ..	15	8	198	189
O.     "     "     Digestive System ... ..	139	8	319	28
P.     "     "     Genito-urinary System ... ..	37	...	239	27
Q.     "     "     Skin ... ..	95	...	149	...
R. Other diseases ... ..	19	24	4	...
S. Mothers and infants discharged from Maternity Wards and not included in above figures—				
Mothers ... ..	...	...	834	...
Infants ... ..	778	...	...	...
T. Any persons not falling under any of the above headings ... ..	14	...	...	...
TOTALS ...	1261	63	2440	441

(1) Including—with the exception of Acute Primary Influenzal Pneumonia, Tuberculosis, Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever—all generally notifiable diseases, together with Measles, German Measles, Chicken-pox, Whooping Cough and Mumps. Cases of Influenzal Pneumonia, Tuberculosis, Puerperal Pyrexia, and Puerperal Fever and Acute Primary Pneumonia are recorded respectively among groups B, C, G, and H. Cases of Encephalitis Lethargica are entered under Group A if acute, and under Group M if chronic.

(2) Including Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

(3) Confined to cases and deaths in which no more specific diagnosis was practicable.

(4) Including suicides, attempted suicides, and poisoning cases.

**TABLE XII.**  
**Summary of Pathological and other Examinations, 1938.**

	Medical Practitioners	Marland Hospital	T.B. Dispensary and Other Clinics	Spring- field Sana- torium	Educa- tion Com- mittee	Birch Hill Hospital	TOTAL
Diphtheria Test ... ..	762	3091	...	...	202	184	4239
Sputum, T.B. ... ..	148	3	30	187	...	87	455
Urine, General examination ...	...	...	...	...	5	67	72
" T.B. ... ..	10	...	...	...	...	1	11
" ? G.C. ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
" Acid bodies ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	79	80
" Urea % ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	74	74
" Sugar % ... ..	...	...	3	...	...	87	90
" Complete examination ...	...	...	2	...	1	152	155
Blood, Complete Counts ... ..	...	...	2	...	2	280	284
" Cultures ... ..	3	1	...	...	...	12	16
" Sugar % ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	94	95
" Urea % ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	86	86
" Transfusions (Compati- bility test) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	19	19
" Widal's ... ..	13	4	...	...	...	15	32
Faeces, Complete examination ...	...	1	...	...	1	20	22
" ? T.B. ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
" ? Typhoid Fever ... ..	15	7	...	...	...	3	25
" ? Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" ? Occult Blood ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	10	10
Smears, ? G.C. ... ..	12	...	...	...	...	1	13
Pus, Complete examination ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	25	26
Swabs, Complete examination ...	...	33	...	...	...	82	115
Cerebro-spinal Fluid ... ..	3	8	...	...	...	38	49
" " Urea Estimation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Test Meal Fractions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	216	216
Vaccines ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Sections ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	128	128
Fluids ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	13	15
Urine, ? Typhoid ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	2	4
Swabs, ? G.C. ... ..	19	...	...	...	...	...	19
Blood, Van-den-Bergh ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	10	10
Sputum, ? Asbestos bodies ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pus, ? T.B. ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	5	7
Blood. Chl Est. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Sputum, Complete exam. ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	2	4
Throat Swabs ? Organisms ... ..	2	10	...	...	...	14	26
Urine ? Lead ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Tape Worm ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fouchet Reaction ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
Anærobic Cultures ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Ringworm ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Inoculation G. Pigs, Pleural Fluid ? T.B. ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Throat Swab ? Virulence ... ..	...	12	...	...	...	...	12
Fragility ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Spleen ? Anthrax ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Blood. Coagulation time ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Langes Gold Curve ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Pneumo Type ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
<b>TOTALS, year 1938 ... ..</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>3171</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>1830</b>	<b>6440</b>
Corresponding figures, year 1937 ... ..	584	1521	30	184	36	1340	3695

TABLE XIII.

# FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

## 1—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

(HOME OFFICE RETURN.)

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power ...	217	40	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power	251	19	—
*OTHER PREMISES under the Act (in- cluding works of building and engi- neering construction but not including outworkers' premises ... ..	—	—	—
• Electrical Station should be reckoned as factories TOTAL ... ..	468	59	—

## 2—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			No. of defects in respect of which Prosecu- tions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	37	37	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ... ..	2	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)—				
Insufficient ... ..	2	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	13	12	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	11	10	—	—
[Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.]				
TOTAL .. ..	65	61	—	—



**REPORT**  
**ON THE**  
**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF**  
**SCHOOL CHILDREN.**

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF ROCHDALE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Thirty-first Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service.

### Staff.

The school Medical staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, who is Chief School Medical Officer, a whole time and a part time Assistant Medical Officer, two Dental Officers, four school Nurses, two Dental Attendants and one girl clerk. There are also a part-time Ophthalmologist and a part-time Aurist.

### School Premises.

- (1) Three new nursery schools have been opened during the year and a fourth taken over from the Voluntary Nursery School Committee.
- (2) The new senior schools at Greenbank and Brimrod were opened in October.
- (3) Greenbank juniors have returned from Cronkeyshaw school where they were temporarily accommodated during building operations at Greenbank.
- (4) At Parish Church senior school extensive alterations were put in hand including a new gymnasium with showers and domestic science and elementary science rooms.
- (5) The Sparrow Hill Gymnasium has been demolished and gymnastic apparatus supplied to all senior schools.
- (6) At Lenny Barn playing fields, the basket ball pitches have been extended and a concrete cricket pitch has been constructed.
- (7) Three schools have been painted inside and six outside.
- (8) The renewal of the latrines at Baillie Street has been put in hand.
- (9) Arrangements have been made whereby swimming instruction is now continued throughout the winter months.

### Schools and Scholars.

There are 31 elementary schools (including two Central Schools), one open-air school, two municipal high schools, one junior technical school, and four nursery schools.

The number of children attending day-classes during the year was as follows :—

**Elementary Schools—**

Juniors (under 5 years of age)	...	...	...	...	1,151
Mixed (over 5 years of age)...	...	...	...	...	9,043
Open Air School	...	...	...	...	120
					<hr/> 10,314 <hr/>
Elementary Schools (Total)	...	...	...	...	10,314
High Schools ...	...	...	...	...	680
Day Commercial	...	...	...	...	71
Junior Technical	...	...	...	...	91
					<hr/> 11,156 <hr/>

## ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

### Elementary Schools.

The twenty-nine elementary schools have each been inspected once and the usual three groups of children examined, i.e., routine, special and re-examinations.

### Central Schools.

The Boys' and Girls' Central Schools have each been inspected once and all twelve-year-old children examined together with special examinations and re-examinations.

### Junior Technical School.

This school has been inspected for the first time during 1938, and the boys were examined who had missed their twelve-year-old examination at their elementary school and also all who were expected to leave the school within the following twelve months. These latter children were either fourteen or fifteen years old.

### Secondary Schools.

The Boys' and Girls' High Schools have each been inspected once, and the boys and girls examined whose twelfth birthday had occurred since the previous inspection. In addition the "leavers" were examined and a group between these whose age was about fourteen.

### The Open-Air School.

One session per week at least has been spent at this school by the Assistant School Medical Officer and a nurse.

**Total Inspections** during the year by the Medical Officer.

The number of inspections made is shown below in comparison with the figures for 1937.

	1937	1938
Routine Inspections		
at Elementary Schools ... ..	3,206	3,116
at Secondary and Technical Schools ...	286	305
Special Inspections ... ..	386	443
Re-inspections ... ..	1,084	1,074
Inspections at Open-Air School ... ..	2,612	2,593
Special Inspections at Clinic ... ..	2,084	2,492
Re-inspections at Clinic ... ..	5,062	5,294
	<hr/> 14,720	<hr/> 15,317
Cases seen by Ophthalmologist ... ..	574	534

There is again an increase in the number of inspections made at the Clinics held in the Public Health Office.

### FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

There is no doubt at all that during recent years the general condition of the entrants to our public elementary schools has enormously improved. There are obvious reasons why this should be so, such as better housing, and a wider public knowledge of infant nurture, which last is due largely to the work and influence of the infant welfare departments. This improvement in the physique of the entrants brings into greater prominence a matter which for some considerable time had been a matter of concern to the School Medical Officer—that the eight year old child is relatively in a poor state of health and exhibits more individual defects, than does the entrant or the leaver. There is apparently about twice as much malnutrition at eight as there is at five, or at 12, and most defects are in general more frequent, and therefore children attending the Open-Air School tend to be recruited more and more from among the seven, eight, or nine-year-old children. The preponderance of these age groups in the Open-Air School causes administrative difficulties.

The zymotic diseases and the many indefinite febrile attacks of early childhood account for much of the eight-year-old's debility, and the catarrhs which afflict the upper respiratory tract with such frequency and severity in this district cause much of the remainder. The oft-recurring maternal complaint "he's done nothing but ail ever since he started school, though he was never a bit of trouble before" falls unwelcome on the ears of the Medical Officer who has watched the sturdy five-year-old become at eight wan and listless, with



soft muscles, drooping posture, anorexia and insomnia. When this happens to the children of intelligent and healthy parents who are not on the poverty line, and who are willing and able to do everything suggested for the child's good, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that something in the school life itself may be at fault—buildings, size of classes, administrative system, or what not. As our older schools gradually disappear and new ones, approximating more closely to the open-air type, replace them, perhaps this decline of health will not occur to such an extent. At present however, all our new schools are either nursery schools or for senior and secondary children, so that "infants" remain in the older buildings.

Fortunately at the inspection of "leavers" it is found that many of the eight-year-old's defects have been remedied. The leaver's general health is usually good, any defects being of a rather different type from those of the second age group. Postural defects are found, also foot trouble due to ill-fitting shoes, eyestrain due to an increasing amount of close work, and the symptoms of over strain which the nervous or over-energetic child is apt to develop at puberty.

In spite of the fact that the number of children in our schools decrease year by year, the work of the School Medical Service increases in scope and complexity to such an extent that although the personnel of the staff has been practically doubled during recent years each member is just as fully occupied as before, and the total number of inspections increases annually.

Apart from dental caries, the chief morbid condition to be found in children is still lack of sufficient rest and sleep. No advice is more frequently given by the school doctor than that of sending a child to bed earlier, but this advice is quite certainly more frequently disregarded than any other. Neither medicine nor prescriptions are expected at the school Clinic but the mother who is most unwilling or "unable" to get her offspring to bed at a reasonable hour is often the mother who buys tonics and patent medicines that she can ill afford.

Recently the headmaster of an average junior school in Rochdale, where the age of the pupils varied between 8 to 11 years, took a careful record of the bedtimes of his whole school. An analysis was made of his results, particularly with regard to the child's position in school, where there is a continual A and B stream according to scholastic attainment. The interesting fact emerged that the average bedtime of the B classes was very considerably later than that of the A class. This was expected; but the difference was greater than had been thought, and the results may be briefly summarised as follows:—

In bed by 9 p.m. or before

A classes 78%

B classes 31.2%

In bed after 9 p.m.

22%

68.8%

### **Uncleanliness.**

Each school was visited three times during the year for cleanliness inspections, and at these visits the nurses made 13,849 examinations and found 904 individual children not clean, or 8.7 per cent. of the total. The average number of clean children was 91.3 per cent. These figures show a slight improvement on those of 1937. Another large municipal housing estate (Brotherod) has been occupied during the year, mainly by people from condemned slum property in congested parts of the town, and including some families who have long been a source of trouble at cleanliness inspections. All verminous children are immediately excluded and a special red-printed certificate of unfitness is issued, so that the Head Teacher and the Enquiry Officer shall know the reason for exclusion at a glance.

### **Minor Ailment Clinic.**

There were 10,551 attendances at the Minor Ailment clinic, during the year including 420 cases of impetigo, 392 minor eye and ear defects, and 1,505 small injuries. The number of individual children treated (new cases) was 1,794.

The attendances show an increase of 919, and the individual children a decrease of 212, as compared with last year. The cases of impetigo show a definite decrease from last year with 720 cases.

## **DEFECTS OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.**

The new clinic for ear, nose and throat conditions has now completed its first, and extremely busy, working year. By the end of 1938 the long waiting list had been considerably reduced, so that children were being examined within a month of being put on the waiting list, and being operated on within two or three weeks of examination, where an operation had been found necessary. Urgent cases are referred immediately to Dr. Cammock for examination, six children being sent for each week, and since early in the year, a school nurse has attended this clinic at the Infirmary, taking with her the case-notes both of the new cases and of those due for re-examination after X-ray operation or other treatment. Since the adoption of this course, the liaison between the two departments has been very smooth, and the clerical work greatly facilitated, especially the checking of accounts and follow-up work.

In addition to the children referred for a consultant's opinion, straightforward cases requiring simple tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy only are referred direct to the Aurist for operation and, including these, Dr. Cammock has performed during the year 212 tonsillectomies, 19 mastoidectomies, 9 sub-mucous resections of the nasal septum, and 53 other operations including draining of the various accessory sinuses, paracentesis, etc.

Post-operative treatment such as syringing is carried out at the school clinic and has on many mornings accounted for practically the whole of one nurse's time, but it is considered that 1938 has been a peak year for this work and that the numbers will probably decrease now that the accumulated cases of years have been dealt with.

The general efficiency of this clinic has already built up considerable confidence on the part of parents in this, the latest of the Education Committee's arrangements for improving the school child's health, and there is little or no difficulty in obtaining parental consent either for examination or for operative measures.

### **Tuberculosis.**

There are 96 notified cases of tuberculosis, as compared with 79 in 1937, among children of school age, 59 being pulmonary and 37 non-pulmonary. This increase on last year's figures is due mainly to the larger incidence of hilar infection. Of these cases :—

- 23 are at certified special schools ;
- 66 are attending ordinary elementary schools ;
- 1 is at another institution ;
- 6 are at no school or institution.

The school clinics are in close co-operation with the Tuberculosis Officer and his staff, who undertake all responsibility for, and treatment of tuberculous children. Cases suitable for Sanatorium treatment are sent to Stannington or to Eastby, and are frequently admitted to the Open-Air School for a time on their return, when certified arrested and non-infectious by the Tuberculosis Officer.

### **External Eye Disease.**

During 1938, 76 cases of blepharitis and conjunctivitis were treated at the school clinic, as compared with 75 last year.

### **Defective Vision.**

The Ophthalmic Surgeon has held 40 clinics during the year, and has examined 514 children, including 17 pre-school children referred from the infant welfare clinics.

## **DENTAL REPORT.**

The following Annual Dental Report is submitted by Mr. A. C. Walker, L.D.S., and Mr. H. P. Gledsdale, L.D.S., dental officers.

During the year 39 school departments have been visited once, and 23 of these have been visited twice for routine dental inspection, the total number inspected being 9,713. Of these, 6,551 were referred for treatment, the number actually treated being 4,019 including "Specials." Fillings numbered 3,877, and extractions 5,365.



The benefits derived by the recent addition of one dental officer and one dental attendant in extending the scope of our existing School Dental Service cannot be doubted. It has made it possible to extend routine dental treatment to all Elementary School children from 5 to 14 years, instead of, as previously from 6 to 9 years. During the year dental clinics have been established at the Open-Air School itself, and at Norden. In the latter case the Norden Council Offices were utilised. Both these premises provided excellent accommodation for the work, and the resulting facilities have been appreciated and the clinics well attended. Additional dental clinics will be introduced during 1939 in the Brimrod/Castleton area and the Balderstone area. The establishment of these out-district clinics should remove the objections raised in the past to the escort and travel of younger children to the town clinic. This difficulty, owing to increasing road traffic dangers, etc., had become very acute during the last few years.

In spite of all these undoubted advantages which this staff increase has enabled us to provide, it should not be overlooked that the real problem of providing constant and adequate treatment for all Elementary School children, still remains. When one realizes that dental defects, to a greater or lesser degree, are met with in more than 95 per cent. of children, then the enormity of this problem can be visualized. In addition to this, one factor, not generally realized, which makes for slow progress in dental schemes is that dental caries is constantly recurring year after year in the treated and untreated alike. All this goes to show the difficulty of providing adequate treatment and the tremendous problem it presents to the dental officers concerned. This problem is not restricted only to our own Education Authority, and many methods and devices have to be adopted by dental officers, to dispense under these difficulties, their services to the best advantage.

### Work of the School Nurses.

The following is a summary of the work done by the school nurses, in addition to their clerical work which increases every year :—

Treatments at morning clinics	...	...	...	...	...	10,551
Cleanliness inspection	...	...	...	...	...	13,849
Inspections with Medical Officer—						
at schools	...	...	...	...	...	4,938
at clinic	...	...	...	...	...	7,786
Cases seen with Ophthalmic Surgeon	...	...	...	...	...	534
Inspections at Open-Air School	...	...	...	...	...	2,593
Home Visits	...	...	...	...	...	473

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40,724

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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases have been notified among school children during 1938 :

						1938		1937
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	127	...	63
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	172	...	41
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	350	...	234
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	158
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	15
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
German Measles	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	1
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2
						782	...	519

### Outbreak of Diphtheria at the Boys' Home.

On September 7th, 1938, a case of diphtheria was notified at the Waifs and Strays' Society's Home for Boys in Rochdale. The home was visited immediately and swabs taken of the thirty other boys and the four members of the staff in residence. The boys were excluded from the two schools which they attend. Fourteen of these swabs were positive for K.L.B., and during the next eight weeks 28 of these 34 people were found to have positive swabs. Eventually the four found to be Schick-positive were immunised with alum-precipitated toxoid and there has been no further trouble.

Altogether 24 boys and one woman, a member of the domestic staff, were removed to Marland Isolation Hospital, but only four cases, all boys, were really ill with clinical diphtheria, the rest being carriers. It seems likely that an unsuspected carrier had been in the Home for some considerable time before the first case of clinical diphtheria occurred. One boy was very seriously ill, but all eventually recovered completely. The Master and Matron of the Home worked very efficiently and willingly in co-operation with the Public Health Staff and the Honorary Physician of the Home.

Several suggestions were made to the Committee governing this Home, as to how such widespread epidemics might be avoided in future. These steps included immunisation against diphtheria as a condition of admission.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Again individual letters have been sent to the parents or guardians of all children in infant departments, and 382 children had complete courses of alum-precipitated toxoid. No deaths have occurred in immunised children who later developed diphtheria. One course of treatment, entailing two separate

visits by a doctor and a nurse, has been, as before, provided for each infant department in the town. Children who, through sickness or other cause, miss either injection are sent for to attend the Central Clinic. This arrangement is ample to deal with all the children in the schools, yet the response continues to be extremely disappointing. Diphtheria has been more prevalent in the town during the last year ; there have been deaths amongst non-immunised children, and a large number of very severe cases.

None of these factors are evidently sufficient to counteract public apathy towards the protection offered by diphtheria immunisation.

The Health Committee have decided to intensify propaganda in this direction during next year.

### The Day Open-Air School.

During 1938, 106 children have been discharged from the Open-Air Schools, all very much improved in health. They had been admitted for the following defects :—

	Boys	Girls
Malnutrition ... ..	20	12
Pre and post-tuberculosis ... ..	6	4
Heart disease ... ..	4	2
Nervous conditions ... ..	6	2
Non-tubercular affections of the chest ...	3	3
Orthopædic defects ... ..	10	5
Anæmia and debility ... ..	13	16
	<hr/> 62	<hr/> 44

It is impossible to admit to Brown Hill all the children who would benefit from admission, and cases have to be carefully selected by the School Medical Officer. Large numbers of parents apply for their children's admission, particularly those whose elder children have attended the school, and the task of weeding out is sometimes difficult. Children can be admitted from the age of seven, but the seven, eight and nine year olds do not benefit nearly as much, generally speaking, as the older children, especially when the home is not near the school.

The attendance at this school is surprisingly good, better than that at any elementary school even in bad weather, partly due to the fact that the journey is only made once a day, and that the school bus makes easy the uphill part of the journey, i.e., that from the town centre to the school.

Lately we have been particularly successful in the treatment of certain cases of malnutrition due to lack of interest in food, and lack of appetite, aggravated sometimes by unintelligent catering, and bad cooking on the part of the mother. The good plain food attractively served, and the example set by 119 other hungry children, often develop a healthy appetite in the 120th child who formerly "wouldn't eat," "picked at his food," or "didn't eat enough to keep a sparrow alive."

Of recent years we have had a fair number of requests from parents that their delicate fourteen-year-old children should stay on at the school instead of leaving to find work, or at least stay until suitable work, of a light nature and in healthy surroundings, should present itself. This request has been acceded to where possible, and where the child's constitutional weakness warrants it, and there is usually very marked improvement during the extra months. The raising of the school age is expected to increase our waiting list considerably, and if the school remains the same size, either the age of entry must be raised or some cases really requiring admission will have to be refused.

### NURSERY SCHOOLS.

During the year ending December, 1938, one Nursery School, namely, that at South Street, was in full occupation, while three other schools, each of 80 places, were opened and are gradually being filled up.

At these schools 302 children were medically examined. All children with medical defects were noted. Those requiring special treatment were referred to specialist departments, while other groups were noted for observation and periodical re-examination.

The report on the nutrition of the children is interesting. 60 children, or 20 per cent. were classed as of excellent nutrition, 167 or 55 per cent. as of normal nutrition, and 75 or 25 per cent. as of slightly subnormal nutrition. No children were found to fall in the "D" or Bad Nutrition group. In a number of cases where nutrition was defective and the home conditions unsatisfactory, additional milk or cod-liver oil was provided.

Since all the schools have not been established for a full twelve months, comparisons, based on the total number of children examined, cannot be given. The South Street School records, however, show that of 41 children in attendance for over six months, only one child failed to gain weight. The gain in weight was progressive as shown by the following figures :—

Average gain in	6 months	...	...	...	...	...	2½ lbs.
"	"	8	"	...	...	...	4 lbs.
"	"	10	"	...	...	...	4½ lbs.

By far the most common abnormality found was slight enlargement of tonsils and adenoids in 50 per cent. of the children, while only 7 per cent. showed marked abnormality in this respect.

Special emphasis is laid upon the general cleanliness of the children, and although 41 children, or roughly 14 per cent. were found at one time or other to have nits, the heads were not badly affected. Although 31 children are classed as suffering from Rickets, the majority of the cases could be styled mild or healed.

The weekly diet sheets were examined and found to be satisfactory. The children receive sensible, appetising meals, designed to make good deficiencies in the home dietary and, on the whole, definite gain in weight is manifested.

The parents are co-operating well with the teachers, and take a real interest in the progress of their children and in their general health. Both through the Father's and Mother's Clubs and through the good habits learned by the children at school and carried back to the home, these schools are playing a useful part in the teaching of Infant Welfare and hygienic living.

The rest periods, happy play hours and co-operative games are having a marked effect on the mental outlook and behaviour of the children. Very soon the children, practically without exception, are found to adapt themselves to their new community, to become less troublesome and more contented.

Successful use has been made of the close association with parents to promote immunisation against diphtheria amongst the children. At South Street School 24 children were fully immunised this year.

### **Speech Training Class.**

A class for the treatment of speech defects was held continuously from August, 1931, until the summer of 1936, when Miss Hartley, the teacher, retired, since when there has been no class held. A register has been kept up since that day, and it is thought that the number of new cases will have increased sufficiently to warrant the formation of a new class during 1939.

### **The Classes for Retarded Children.**

The classes for retarded children at Heybrook and St. Peter's schools have each completed a successful year's work, and these classes are very much appreciated by all who are associated with these schools. It was intended to establish a similar class in the Meanwood or Oakenrod district during the year, but unfortunately no suitable teacher was available and we have still only two classes for the whole of the town. Each of these accommodates twenty children.



### **Educable Mental Defectives.**

The problem of the educable mental defective is still largely an unsolved one in Rochdale. We have only six at certified schools, and five at other institutions. The Royal Albert Institution, Lancaster, which is not a recognised special school, admits as many of our cases as it is able. The children are paid for entirely by voluntary subscribers, apart from such small sums as the parents can contribute, and we are extremely grateful to those connected with this admirable Institution for their generous consideration of our cases.

Except for this small number for whom we can find places in residential homes, and whose parents are willing for them to go, our feeble-minded children are either attending elementary schools (a fortunate few in special classes), or are at home receiving no education.

### **Ineducable Mental Defectives.**

Three girls and one boy have been notified to the Mental Deficiency Committee during 1938; in addition one boy was "voluntarily notified" after leaving his elementary school as he had not been attending a special class or school.

## **PROVISION OF MEALS.**

There has again been little alteration in the arrangements for the provision of meals. During the year ending December 31st, 1938, 233,573 dinners were sent out from the central kitchens. Of these, 216,099 were supplied free to an average of 869 children daily, a considerable increase on the figures for 1937, when the average number receiving free dinners was 793 per day.

In addition 17,474 dinners were supplied for payment, the daily average of these being 126. Children who pay for their dinners do not generally attend on Saturdays; they usually live a long way from school, having removed to a municipal housing estate.

### **Provision of Milk in Schools.**

The number of bottles of milk provided free during 1938 was 201,309, and the average number of children receiving a free bottle each day was 1,045. The average number paying for a bottle of milk each day was 5,817.

## **THE ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.**

During 1938, 138 new cases of orthopaedic defect were referred to Dr. Bateman at the Crippled Children's Union Clinic in Smith Street; two more were sent for but the parents refused to allow their attendance.

We have now no waiting list for this Clinic and are able to send each Monday the cases which have been met with during the previous week. It will be noted in the following list that postural defects such as kyphosis, scoliosis, and flatfoot again constitute the majority of our cases, together with deformities of the toes which are fairly common in children, distressingly so when it is considered that practically every case is caused by ill-fitting footwear and could therefore be avoided.

The cases sent to Dr. Bateman may be classified as follows :—

Kyphosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Scoliosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Lordosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Flatfoot	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Other postural defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Other foot troubles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Torticollis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epiphysitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cerebellar Tumour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plantar Warts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Varicose Veins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
								<hr/> 138
Refusals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/> 140 <hr/>

It will be seen from the above list that the type of defect referred to the orthopaedic clinic has changed somewhat during the past few years. Formerly knock-knee and bow-leg would in this neighbourhood have been the chief defects needing treatment. These have practically vanished with the coming of the well-nourished entrants to our schools referred to earlier in this report. The large majority of the children now sent to the clinic require out-patient treatment only, i.e., exercises, massage, etc., while the bow-leg and knock-knee cases usually required in-patient treatment at the Memorial Home.

#### **New Scheme for Treatment of Debility.**

An ever-recurring problem to the School Medical Officer is that of the really delicate child, the case in which no infection or pathological condition can be found, and which may show very little in the way of signs or even symptoms of ill-health, but who is nevertheless so far from being in good health that

he is unable to attend school regularly, and incapable of joining in games with other children. It does seem in these cases that "debility" is a definite clinical entity, not to be confused with that temporary weakness after illness, injury, shock, neglect, and the like, which can be remedied by a good holiday. The ordinary convalescent home holiday is useless for the type of child at present under consideration ; a period at the open-air school may help, but the condition recurs very shortly after discharge, and the worst cases may show no improvement after two years or more of attendance at the School.

In connection with the Crippled Children's Union, and their Medical Officer, Dr. Bateman, the Education Committee have during 1938 embarked upon a new scheme whereby certain of these extremely delicate children have been sent to the Memorial Home, where the reduction of in-patients for orthopædic work, mentioned in the previous section of the Report, had resulted in their being some accommodation to spare. Children are selected by the School Medical Officer, and submitted to Dr. Bateman, who decides as to their suitability for the Memorial Home. Parents are expected to contribute to the maintenance of their children while at the Home according to their means, and the rest of the cost is borne by the Education Committee.

The Home is ideally situated in the country outside Rochdale, and is well-known to Rochdale parents on account of the invaluable work done there for Cripples, so that no parent has so far raised any objection to a child entering the Home. 21 children were sent there between the inception of the scheme in the early months of 1938, and the end of the year. Some had completed their stay by December, and in all cases which have so far been seen by the Medical Officer the improvement in general health is dramatic. It seems fairly certain that some of these children at least would have needed to go to a sanatorium later if their condition had not been improved thus early. It will be interesting to see how long this improved health is maintained, and these children are being kept under careful observation, particularly with regard to the regularity of their school attendance.

### **Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.**

The local Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children works in close co-operation with the School Medical Service, and this co-operation is mutually helpful in many ways ; this department is again much indebted to the Society and its Inspector.

60 children were recommended by the Medical Officers of this department for a holiday at the St. Annes Convalescent Home, and all these were accepted by the Committee ; the valuable work done by this Home is much appreciated.

Many run-down and poor children have been given a holiday at the Moorland Home at Wardle, and children needing such a holiday are recommended by the school doctors to apply to the Moorland Home Committee.

### **Clog Fund.**

The Head Teachers' Clog Fund has supplied 223 new pairs of clogs to poor children during the year. The existence of this fund is particularly appreciated by the School Medical Officer during bad weather, when so many children are found in school with trashy footwear soaked through with rain and mud. The present fashion for wearing plimsolls, which all children seem to prefer to stout shoes, is unfortunate, since they are frequently worn in totally unsuitable weather, and afford no protection against such weather. Barefoot children are never seen to-day, but from a health point of view it might be better to have bare feet which would soon dry indoors than to wear the sodden mass of canvas, paper, and torn rubber so often seen on children's feet in bad weather.

### **Unemployment Assistance Board.**

The courtesy of the officials of this Board is much appreciated by the Medical Officer on the many occasions where the work of the Board and the School Medical Service is closely connected.

### **Employment of Children and Young Persons.**

The number of children wishing to enter part-time employment between the age of twelve and school-leaving age has much increased during 1938, when 169 boys and 8 girls presented themselves for the necessary medical examination before taking up such work. Three boys were refused as their general health was known by the School Medical Officer not to be good. These are the only grounds upon which such cases can be refused, but the great increase in the number of applicants for work causes some disquiet to the Medical Officer, particularly when the work is such as stage-dancing, which entails late hours and possibly other conditions detrimental to health.

### **Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.**

In connection with this Act, 13 children and young persons have been examined for the completion of the medical examination required in the event of their admission to Home Office Approved Schools.

### **Blind, Deaf and Epileptic Children, including other defects.**

Two children are at a Blind School.

Six children are at a Certified School for the Deaf.

Five children are at Certified Schools for the Epileptic.

Thirteen children are at Certified Schools for Tuberculosis.

Six children are at Certified Schools for Mental Defectives.

Three children are at the Bethesda Home for Cripples, Manchester.



These children are all at schools outside Rochdale. There are still 120 children at the Day Open-Air School, and 36 children (orthopædic cases) were admitted to the Residential Cripple School in the Borough which belongs to the Cripples' Union, a voluntary body. In addition the 21 debilitated children mentioned above were admitted to this Home.

### Cost of Medical Inspection.

The cost of Medical Inspection and treatment from April 1st, 1937, to March 31st, 1938, was as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries ... ..	2,386	11	7
Printing, Stationery and Postage ... ..	110	17	7
Drugs, materials, apparatus and spectacles ... ..	600	9	11
Hospitals, Nursing Associations, etc. ... ..	938	6	6
Travelling ... ..	17	10	2
Rent ... ..	381	8	8
Upkeep of premises ... ..	26	13	9
Fuel, lighting and cleaning ... ..	15	9	8
Conveyance of children ... ..	87	9	3
Miscellaneous ... ..	2	2	0
	<hr/> £4,566 19 1 <hr/>		
Recovered from parents ... ..	139	1	4

The large increase on the previous year's costs is due mainly to the new Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic, and the additional dentist, and dental assistant appointed during 1937.

The amount and variety of work indicated in this Report again pays tribute to the enthusiasm of Dr. Mills, the Assistant School Medical Officer, and her staff of three nurses and a clerk. That tribute I wish to emphasise. At the same time it must be noted that the work of the School Medical Officer is altering rapidly in character in a way that no statistics can indicate adequately.

In proportion to-day more and more time and energy are devoted to special examinations of the individual, as contrasted with the earlier concentration on routine examinations. The number of ancillary services is steadily increasing and each year brings a fresh outside organisation into the sphere of co-operation with the School Medical Department. In this way the individual child is studied

more minutely than ever before, in regard to his nutrition, his physical development, his mental health—the special service which will most benefit him if below normal, and his ultimate entry into the working world in relation to National Health Insurance and type of employment.

In conclusion I would record my indebtedness to Dr. Mills for the preparation of this Report and the Director of Education and his Staff for their assistance in respect of the statistical portions of the Report. I wish to acknowledge also the sympathetic support of the Education Committee, and, in particular, of the School Medical Services Sectional Committee, throughout the year.

*John Lums.*

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
ROCHDALE.

Medical Officer of Health and  
School Medical Officer.

June 20th, 1939.

TABLE I.

Return of Medical Inspections, 1st January to 31st December, 1938.

## A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—								Elementary
Entrants .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	875
Second Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1365
Third Age Group	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	876
<b>Total</b> .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3116
Number of other Routine Inspections								305
								3421

## B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2935
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6368
<b>Total</b> .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9303

## C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

(excluding defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness, and Dental Diseases).

Group (1)	For defective vision (exclud- ing squint) (2)	For all other conditions re- corded in Table II A. (3)	Total individual children (4)
Entrants .. .. .	4	139	117
Second Age Group .. ..	40	230	242
Third Age Group .. ..	41	100	132
Total (Prescribed Groups) ..	85	469	491
Other Routine Inspections ..	25	56	71
Grand Total .. .. .	110	525	562

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended  
31st December, 1938.

Defect or Disease						Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
						No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
						Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <b>not</b> requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but <b>not</b> requiring treatment.
(1)						(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
						E.	E.	E.	E.
Skin	Ringworm—								
	Scalp ... ..					1	...	...	...
	Body ... ..					...	...	...	...
	Scabies ... ..					2	...	1	...
	Impetigo ... ..					8	...	5	...
Eye	Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous) ...					9	...	4	...
	Blepharitis ... ..					19	...	4	...
	Conjunctivitis ... ..					1	...	1	...
	Keratitis ... ..					1	...	...	...
	Corneal Opacities ... ..					...	...	...	...
	Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision and Squint) ... ..					3	1	...	...
	Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...					110	30	70	8
	Squint ... ..					17	13	16	1
Ear	Defective Hearing ... ..					9	1	8	...
	Otitis Media ... ..					23	...	8	...
	Other Ear Diseases ... ..					20	1	5	...
Nose and Throat	Chronic Tonsillitis only ... ..					52	43	22	1
	Adenoids only ... ..					11	11	7	...
	Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...					20	23	12	...
	Other Conditions ... ..					57	7	38	1
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ...						18	5	8	...
Defective Speech ... ..						10	1	21	2
Heart and Circulation	Heart Disease—								
	Organic ... ..					3	...	1	...
	Functional ... ..					14	8	2	...
Lungs	Anaemia ... ..					11	2	1	...
	Bronchitis ... ..					2	1	3	...
	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ...					11	...	6	...



TABLE II.—(continued).

						E.	E.		E
Tuber- culosis	{	Pulmonary—							
		Definite ... ..				...	...	...	...
		Suspected ... ..				...	...	...	...
		Non-pulmonary—							
		Glands ... ..				1	...	...	...
		Bones and Joints ... ..				...	...	...	...
	{	Skin ... ..				...	...	...	...
		Other Forms ... ..				...	...	...	...
Nervous System	{	Epilepsy ... ..				1	1	...	...
		Chorea ... ..				...	...	...	...
		Other Conditions ... ..				12	1	16	...
Deform- ities	{	Rickets ... ..				10	2	1	...
		Spinal Curvature ... ..				...	2	...	...
		Other Forms ... ..				99	65	21	1
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)						80	7	89	1
TOTAL ...						635	225	370	15

TABLE II.—(continued).

## B.—Classification of Nutrition.

Age Groups	Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly subnormal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	875	141	16.1	698	79.8	35	4.0	1	0.1
Second Age- group ...	1365	118	8.6	1133	83.0	112	8.2	2	0.2
Third Age-group	876	126	14.4	711	81.2	39	4.4	0	0.0
Other Routine Inspections ...	305	96	31.5	198	64.9	11	3.6	0	0.0
TOTAL ...	3421	481	14.1	2740	80.1	197	5.7	3	0.1

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

Nature of Defect	At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementa'y Schools	At Other Instituti'ns	At no School or Institution	TOTAL
Blindness ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Partial Blindness ...	2	—	—	—	2
Deafness ... ..	6	—	—	—	6
Partial Deafness ...	—	3	—	—	3
Mental Defect ...	6	46	5	1	58
Epilepsy ... ..	3	—	1	1	5
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis ... ..	24	30	1	4	59
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	9	25	—	2	36
Delicate Children ...	92	23	—	3	118
Crippling ... ..	36	57	—	2	95
Heart Disease ...	7	24	1	5	37

## Multiple Defects—

Crippled and M.D. ...	—	—	—	1	1
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TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1937.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness, for which see Group VI.).

Disease or Defect (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
SKIN—			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	36	...	36
Ringworm—Body ... ..	19	...	19
Scabies ... ..	1	...	1
Impetigo ... ..	428	...	428
Other skin diseases ... ..	91	...	91
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ... .. (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)	76	...	76
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..	316	...	316
MISCELLANEOUS ... .. (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	1505	...	1505
TOTAL ... ..	2472	...	2472

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

Defect or Disease (1)	Number of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
Errors of Refractions including Squint ... ..	514	20	534
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ..	—	...	—
Total ... ..	514	20	534

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	441
(B) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	4

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(A) Under the Authority's Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	480
(B) Otherwise	...	...	...	...	...	4

### GROUP III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

#### Number of Defects.

Received Operative Treatment												Received other forms of Treatment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital				By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme				Total					
(1)				(2)				(3)					
(i)	(ii.)	(iii.)	(iv.)	(i.)	(ii.)	(iii.)	(iv.)	(i)	(ii.)	(iii.)	(iv.)		
—	5	207	62	—	—	12	—	—	5	219	62	22	308

(i.) Tonsils only.

(ii.) Adenoids only.

(iii.) Tonsils and Adenoids.

(iv.) Other defects of the Nose and Throat.

TABLE IV.—(Continued).

### GROUP IV.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme			Otherwise			Total Number Treated
	Residential Treatment with Education	Residential Treatment without Education	Non- residential Treatment at an Orthopædic Clinic	Residential Treatment with Education	Residential Treatment without Education	Non- Residential Treatment at an Orthopædic Clinic	
Number of Children Treated	—	—	258	45	—	—	303



TABLE IV.—(Continued).

## GROUP V.—Dental Defects.

(1) Number of Children who were :—

(a) Inspected by the Dentist—

	5.....	999
	6.....	1076
Routine Age Groups	7.....	1137
	8.....	1141
	9.....	1110
	10.....	1018
	11.....	1008
	12.....	1004
	13.....	979
	14.....	241
Grand Total .....		<u>9713</u>

(b) Specials ... .. 1061

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) ... .. 10774

(2) Number found to require treatment ... .. 6551

(3) Number actually treated ... .. 4019

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ... .. 5489

(5) Half-days devoted to—	Inspection	..	99			
	Treatment	..	716	Total	..	815

(6) Fillings—	Permanent teeth	..	3539			
	Temporary teeth	..	338	Total	..	3877

(7) Extractions—	Permanent teeth	..	940			
	Temporary teeth	..	4425	Total	..	5365

(8) Administrations of General anaesthetics for extractions .. .. —

(9) Other operations	Permanent teeth	965				
	Temporary teeth	250	Total	..	1215	

## GROUP VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses .. .. 3

(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses .. .. 13849

(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean .. .. 904

(iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority .. .. Nil

(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 .. .. Nil

(b) Under the School Attendance Byelaws .. .. Nil

TABLE V.

Mental Deficiency Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928.

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING  
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1938, BY THE LOCAL EDU-  
CATION AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY  
AUTHORITY.

Total Number of children notified 4.

## Analysis of the above Total.

DIAGNOSIS	Boys	Girls
1. (i) Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School—		
(a) Idiots       ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	1	1
(b) Imbeciles   ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	—	2
(c) Others       ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	—	—
(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children—		
(a) Moral defectives   ...     ...     ...     ...	—	—
(b) Others           ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	—	—
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16     ...	Voluntary 1	—
3. Feeble-minded children notified under Article 3 i.e., "special circumstances" cases     ...     ...	—	—
4. Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	—	—
GRAND TOTAL     ...     ...     ...	1	3



